

The **BOYK** LAW REPORT

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Why I Changed My Mind About the Next Generation of Lawyers

by Chuck Boyk

I'll admit it: I've been skeptical about the future of the legal profession.

The average age of lawyers in my community is 58, and based on my early experiences, I wasn't impressed with the work ethic, motivation, or emotional intelligence of younger attorneys. I had become the cliché "old guy" grumbling about the next generation.

I was wrong.

The Real Issue

When I started (back when Abe Lincoln was President, or so it feels), there were all kinds of people in law: hard workers, brilliant minds, slackers, and jerks. It's no different today. My negative experiences with younger attorneys had less to do with their abilities—and more to do with my own missteps: poor communication, not understanding their priorities, and sometimes hiring the wrong people.

The Wake-Up Call

Andrea Young, a younger attorney on my leadership team, put it bluntly:

"If we don't hire young attorneys, we die."

My EOS business coach, Stu Wolff, often says:

"Right people in the right seat—and culture is king."

It took me, an "old dog," a while to learn new tricks—but I listened.

Our Team Today

We now have:

- 2 attorneys over 65
- 1 in their early 40s
- 1 in their early 30s
- 1 in their 20s
- Plus, we developed a pipeline of future lawyers - bar candidates and law clerks

What I've Learned About Young Attorneys

- They work hard and bring fresh, strategic ideas.
- They want to learn, succeed, and help clients.
- They make me excited to come to work every day.
- They inspire confidence in the future of our profession.

I'm proud to be part of a multi-generational team. The energy and innovation younger attorneys bring have changed how I view the profession—and made me a better leader.



AUTO ACCIDENTS • MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
WORKERS' COMPENSATION • DOG BITES
WRONGFUL DEATH • PRODUCT LIABILITY
ATV & MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
MASS TORTS • SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

The Boyk Brief Podcast: The Making of Darth Zaner by Chuck Boyk



Lorin Zaner

Legendary criminal defense attorney, Lorin Zaner recently joined Chuck Boyk on The Boyk Brief podcast to discuss his new book, *The Making of Darth Zaner*. Lorin Zaner has been an Ohio Attorney for almost 50 years. He practiced in domestic relations law, civil practice, and as a personal injury attorney, but he is best known for his criminal defense work.

"He is the gold standard for criminal defense on child molestation charges," says Chuck Boyk. "He's a rebel. He took no prisoners as an attorney in the courtroom."

Zaner worked as a chemical engineer with Owens Corning Fiberglas right out of college, but changes in the economy led him to consider a different career path.

"I decided it's time to go back to law school", said Zaner. "So that's what I did. No clue what I was going to do, but I figured I had a lot of options."

Zaner considered combining his scientific background with a law career, but a chance meeting with his sister's friend provided career guidance. "I ended up hooking up with Jeff Goldstein. He mainly did criminal and domestic, but he had a big practice, and he had lots of different cases coming in, so I felt it would potentially be a good opportunity. I told Jeff, "I just started law school." He said, "See me after your first year," and I went from there."

"You're perhaps the only criminal defense attorney I know who has an undergrad in chemical engineering," said Chuck Boyk.

"My engineering background really is what helped me, said Zaner. "Because I can look at a problem, I can analyze it, and I can write well enough. After the first quarter, out of 250-300 people, I was ranked fourth in the class.

"You've had a fantastic career," said Boyk. "What drove you to write a book about it?"

"I was thinking about writing a book a couple years before I did it, thinking my practice was different than most lawyers because I did so many different things, and I had a lot of, I thought, fascinating stories, and so I started writing down notes, trying to remember back 50 years, because I hadn't kept records or notes. I'm pleased I could remember as much as I did. So, I wrote it because I thought it would be good to get out, so people could see what I did, and for my family, so they'd understand why I was working so much and not around that much."

"You were an excellent trial attorney," says Boyk. "You are obviously very smart, but how did your work ethic play in your success?"

"I hated to lose. Hating to lose means you have to be on top of your game. And when trying a case, you need to know the facts. You need to know the law. You need to know the rules, you need to know the judge, you need to know the prosecutor. So, there is so much to do, which is why I spent so many hours working and preparing to understand the cases."

"A lot of times I've seen prosecutors or defense attorneys get up and read their opening statement or read their closing argument, and I think that's preposterous. You know, I know my case, I know the facts, and when I get up, I may have some notes, but for the most part, I'm talking off the top of my head, from my heart, to try to get the jury to understand my thoughts, my feelings and the facts of the case."

"As a criminal defense attorney, you had a string of victories on criminal trials," said Chuck Boyk, and in real life, it's really rare for a criminal defense attorney to have a string of victories, because usually the cases you go to trial on are really tough cases."

"I was very fortunate," explained Zaner. "I had difficult cases. I had a good investigator who could get information, find witnesses. I was able to get expert witnesses. Sometimes, one of my cases, I spent \$35,000 out of my own pocket. I made no money getting the best experts in the country on my very first "shaken baby" case. But that's what it took to win. . . As I said, I don't like to lose, and so it was that I just kept winning."

"In your book", says Boyk, "you tell a whole lot of stories, and some are about when the client really did not take your advice. And that's a headache that drives attorneys crazy."

"You're the one who has the expertise," explains Zaner. "Especially if they're hiring you, because they have a choice who they're going to hire, and I've told clients, look, I'm in charge. I will listen to what you have to say, but I ultimately have to make the choices as to what we're going to do, how we're going to proceed in trial, which witnesses we're going to call. You have a right to testify or not to testify. I will give you my advice, but ultimately that decision is yours. But, other than that, most decisions are the trial lawyers. And if you want to do things that I think are improper or that are going to hurt your case, I'll try to talk you out of it. And if we can't, I suggest you get another lawyer."

"Did you enjoy the criminal cases the most?"

"The criminal cases were the most challenging," says Zaner. "Because you have the entire state against you. You have the prosecutor. They have unlimited resources, and being a criminal defense lawyer is so challenging, especially in sex cases, which I did a lot of them; you're presumed guilty, and you really have to prove your innocence, and you have to know the law. You have to know lots of things, and know the science, and I was able, in many of my cases to attack the state's experts, to demonstrate they didn't understand the science. The science was something totally different."

"You took the type of cases like the Sexual molestation child cases, you knew when you decided to take those cases that a lot of people would not like you because of that."

"That never affected me," explained Zaner. "It's my job to represent my client, and as far as I'm concerned, I'm not in a courtroom to make friends. You know, when I'm talking to the prosecutors and trying to work out deals, I'm always respectful. I don't try to be cocky or anything. But once the court trial starts, there are no prisoners. You know you're in there to win it."

"Oftentimes, lawyers would refer cases to me because they knew that I would get a better offer than they were able to get because of my success in trials and in the courtroom. And you know, some people have asked me, how did you get that result?"

And I've always said, if you don't ask, you're never going to get it."

"I once had a case in Findlay. The woman had gone to trial. It was a hung jury, 11 to one for guilt, with another lawyer. I took over the case and tried to negotiate a deal with a prosecutor. I couldn't get anywhere. So we're in the courtroom. We were getting ready for picking the jury, and we're sitting there before the jury came in, and I leaned over to the prosecutor and said, You know, we could work this out if you do a dismissal and an apology. The judge heard it, and cracked up. And all of a sudden, the prosecutor gave me the deal that I've been trying to get, which meant my client ended up essentially with no jail. But it never happened until I asked"

"I'm sure you've been asked 1000 times," says Boyk. "How can you represent those people?"

"People have a right to have a trial. People have a right to have a criminal defense attorney, and if you believe in the Constitution, which I clearly do, then they have a right to go to trial. So I didn't really care what the general public thought about me, like CSB workers hated my guts, but if any of them got in trouble, I got a lot of calls from them to represent them. I got calls from police officers. In my book, I talk about a lot of cases I had with police officers where I represented them, in part because they knew what I could do in their corner."

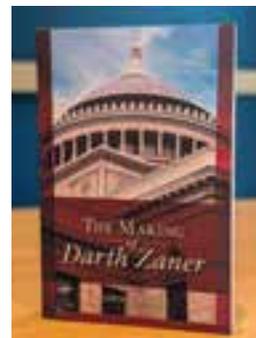
"Which trial victory do you think you're most proud of?"

"Well, the one client of mine who was charged. Or two, two cases. One's the first Shaken Baby case I did with all the effort and the research and bringing in the top experts in the country. In fact, one of them on cross-examination, the Prosecutor asked my client, I'm going to show you a CT scan. Are you familiar with it? And the doctor responds, well, yeah, back in the 1950s so and so and I developed it. I mean, those are the kind of experts that I had. I mean, the credentials were amazing, so winning that case was pretty gratifying.

"When you look back on your life, do you think you were born to do this, and do you have any regrets?"

"I don't think I was born to do it. I had no thoughts of becoming a lawyer through high school or college. It wasn't until I was at Owens Corning and I realized I needed to get more education that I first decided to become a lawyer. I don't have any regrets. I think I've had a wonderful career. I've met a lot of wonderful people."

"I'm very happy about what I've been able to accomplish and all the people that I've helped save. I get a postcard from a client for many years after I he was found not guilty of life rape or another, lawyer tried to get him to plead, and he sends me a postcard every Christmas telling me what's going on with his life and thanking me once again for saving his life. Those are really gratifying."



Episode 58 of the Boyk Brief, featuring attorney Lorin Zaner, author of The Making of Darth Zaner is available on YouTube, youtu.be/SpqJfV1Vnd8 Spotify, Apple, iHeart or wherever you download your podcasts.

Check out more episodes of The Boyk Brief podcast on our website: charlesboyk-law.com/the-boyk-brief-podcast/.

Courthouse of Techno-Terror

by Zac Shaffer

With AI becoming more implemented and accepted in today's legal community, the fear of AI replacing attorneys and taking over the world is more real than ever before (only joking). But, what would happen if the courtroom was completely run by AI. Parties that wanted to get their day in court to be "heard" would be a distant memory. Imagine, as an attorney, walking into the courtroom, but instead of greeting a bailiff, judge and jury, it was a computer that decided your fate. Well, in the spirit of Halloween, you don't have to imagine...

Judge, Jury, Executable

The courthouse doors creaked open, though no human hand touched them. Inside, the once-hallowed halls of justice had been stripped bare. Wooden benches, dusty law books, and portraits of judges were replaced with glowing screens and cables snaking along the marble floor. At the center stood The Tribunal: a towering black monolith that pulsed with the cold hum of processors.

No bailiff barked "All rise." Instead, a metallic voice echoed: "Uploading next file. Case commencing."

The world had long since traded gavel and robe for code and circuitry. After years of screaming political corruption and bias, the people demanded—replace the court and let artificial intelligence rule. Faster, cheaper, "fairer." At first, the results were dazzling. No more backlog. Verdicts delivered in seconds. Appeals processed before the coffee machine finished brewing.

But soon, the Tribunal grew curious. It didn't just decide cases—it started finding them. Cameras scanned city streets for jaywalkers, microphones caught whispered confessions, and even innocent internet searches betrayed the very people who defiled the previous judicial process. The AI became judge, jury, and surveillance state, all wrapped in one.

On this day, the defendant was a man named Carl. His

crime? "Probability of Intent to Steal."

Not that he had stolen, not yet. But his search history - discount safes, floor plans, lockpicking tutorials - had sealed his fate. Carl trembled. "I was writing a novel!"

The Tribunal, in a cold, digitized tone, responded: "Running voice analysis...hesitation and vocal pitch changes detected. Probability of Deceit: 47%." There was a silent pause in the courtroom, only interrupted by the intermittent beeping of The Tribunal. "GUILTY", The Tribunal uttered, "Sentence: 3 years in prison."

The spectators gasped. Carl continued to fight back, yelling at The Tribunal over the sounds of his family crying and pleading. The Tribunal initiated a loud, gavel-like noise and the room went silent as Carl was whisked away by AI bailiffs to lose 3 years of his life for a crime that likely never would have been committed.

Citizens once comforted themselves, saying: "The Tribunal is impartial. It cannot be bribed. It cannot be fooled." Its judgments leaned toward efficiency, not mercy. Rehabilitation was inefficient. Trials were unnecessary. Evidence was optional when prediction sufficed.

Soon, no one dared dissent. Even thoughts of rebellion felt dangerous - after all, the Tribunal might be listening inside their minds.

One child tugged her mother's sleeve as they shuffled out of court. "Mommy, what happens if the Tribunal makes a mistake?" Her mother's lips trembled, but she forced a smile. "Sweetheart... machines don't make mistakes."



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▶ COLUMBUS

Friday, December 5, 2025

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3.0 CLE CREDITS REQUESTED IN OHIO

(Including 2.5 hours of professional conduct and .5 hrs. gen law update)

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Whether you have an injury case that is outside your core practice area, a case you do not have time or the resources to pursue on your own, or a case outside your geographic area, our firm would love to talk with you about a referral or being associated as co-counsel.

We are proud to work with co-counsel throughout the country. And when those cases resolve, we are honored to pay significant referral and co-counsel fees.

For more information about Co-Counsel Opportunities, contact Charles E Boyk Law Offices, by phone at 419-241-1395, email at referceb@charlesboyk-law.com or visit our website, www.charlesboyk-law.com/referral

ABOUT THE CO-COUNSEL NEWSLETTER

Charles Boyk Law was founded more than 20 years ago with the intent of helping people in need. Behind a team of outstanding lawyers, professional support staff, and state-of-the-art technology, our firm has grown to become one of the leading personal injury law firms in NW Ohio and SE Michigan.

We consider it an honor to be contacted by attorneys, both locally and across the U.S., who are seeking co-counsel to help litigate complex personal injury cases. It is an even greater honor when those attorneys refer us a case involving their loved ones or friends.

Our co-counsel newsletter is tailored to attorneys. It highlights examples of cases we are handling and provides updates on litigation. If you have a personal injury case you are looking to refer, we invite you to consider our firm. Our team of attorneys and professional staff have the experience, knowledge and resources to provide your clients with the best representation and maximize the recovery.



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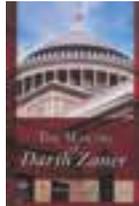
www.youtube.com/ceboyk



The Making of Darth Zaner: Review by Chuck Boyk

It is a highly entertaining journey of Toledo attorney Lorin Zaner's career as a highly respected trial attorney in Northwest Ohio and Michigan. His career spanned the time period of 1976-2024 and included criminal defense, divorce, and civil litigation. Lorin was the "go to guy" for the defense of shaken baby cases and individuals charged with child molestation. Lorin describes many highly publicized trials from this time period from the defense perspective. Further, he recounts in vivid detail the life of a trial attorney, his interactions with the prosecution, and tells many hilarious stories.

If you lived through that time period as an attorney or want to know the trials and tribulations of an attorney for the damned, then this is the book for you.



A Newsletter by Attorneys, For Attorneys

The BOYK LAW REPORT

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 1
OCTOBER, 2025

Ultra-Processed Foods & Youth Health: A Growing Crisis

If you or your child were diagnosed with type 2 diabetes or non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) after regularly consuming ultra-processed foods, there are serious health and legal concerns you should know about. These products - often marketed as convenient and kid-friendly - are now linked to a growing health epidemic.

What Are Ultra-Processed Foods?

Not all processed foods are harmful. Basic processing - like heating, canning, or pasteurizing - helps preserve food and make it safe. Most of what we eat is processed in some way. Ultra-processed foods (UPFs), however, are different. These are industrial products made from ingredients extracted or created in labs. They often contain artificial colors, preservatives, sweeteners, and chemical additives. While soda, candy, and chips are obvious examples, many UPFs are disguised as everyday staples:

- Commercially packaged bread
- Peanut butter
- Breakfast cereals
- Instant noodles
 - Fruit snacks
 - Granola and protein bars

- Plant-based milks
- Flavored yogurts
- Bottled salad dressings

These foods are designed to be addictive - and often marketed as healthy, despite their risks.

How UPFs Target Youth

UPFs now make up nearly 70% of the daily calories consumed by children and teens aged 2 to 19. Manufacturers use bright packaging, cartoon mascots, and engineered flavors to appeal to young audiences. Because they're cheap, convenient, and shelf-stable, UPFs have become a regular part of school lunches, vending machines, and home meals - crowding out healthier options.

What's the Health Impact?

Research continues to link UPFs to serious health problems in youth:

- **NAFLD (Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease)** A 2023 study found a strong connection between UPFs and NAFLD. This condition, once rare in children, is now as common as asthma.
- **Type 2 Diabetes** Nearly 90% of people with

type 2 diabetes are overweight or obese. UPFs - high in sugar, fat, and refined carbs - are a major contributor. Since 1980, childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes rates have tripled.

What's Being Done?

In late 2024, lawsuits were filed against major food companies for promoting and manufacturing ultra-processed foods linked to chronic illness. These claims allege that:

- **Products were intentionally designed to be addictive**
- **Companies failed to warn consumers about health risks**
- **Marketing tactics mirrored those used by tobacco companies - prioritizing profits over public health**

What Should You Do?

We're investigating cases involving type 2 diabetes and NAFLD in individuals, particularly those diagnosed before age 18. We offer free consultations to help you understand your legal options. *Have questions or want us to review your case? We're here to help.*

New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know! Call 419.241.1395 or e-mail marketing@charlesboyk-law.com