

The **BOYK** BULLETIN



CHARLES E. BOYK
LAW OFFICES, LLC

11 Offices >>> NW Ohio & SE Michigan

Boyk Law Investigates Commercial Truck Accidents

When you get behind the wheel, your primary focus is reaching your destination safely. No one drives down the road expecting to be involved in an accident, especially one involving a large semi-truck. All drivers share the road with these vehicular giants of the highway. Semi-Trucks possess the size and power necessary to transport commercial cargo, but that means they can be extremely dangerous when mishandled.

Commercial truck drivers are held to stricter guidelines and standards. They carry a heavy responsibility to maintain total control of their vehicles at all times. Unfortunately, these guidelines are not always followed. Whether through momentary lapses or systemic negligence, the consequences of a collision with a semi can result in life-altering injuries.

The scenarios vary, but the results are often tragically similar. In many cases, a driver is operating the vehicle for too many consecutive hours in excess of mandated driving limits. This leads to exhaustion, dulled reflexes, and an inability to react to changing road conditions.

Sometimes the driver is distracted by something

inside the cab of the truck, causing them to lose control. The most egregious cases are where a commercial driver is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Charles Boyk Law Offices has handled numerous truck accident cases stemming from driver errors and negligence. We have lawyers who have driven commercial trucks and know first-hand which factors can cause or contribute to a serious accident.

If you or a loved one is involved in a commercial trucking accident, contact our office. Your primary objective is to focus on recovery. Charles Boyk Law's experienced Truck Injury lawyers will go to work, investigating the accident scene and gathering evidence.

Our investigation will look at forensic clues left on the pavement. Skid marks are a tell-tale sign of a driver's reaction time. They can indicate how fast a vehicle was stopping and when braking occurred in relation to the point of impact.

Our team will collect police reports, photos, and video from the accident scene. We will secure evidence from

the driver's dash camera to determine what happened and how they responded.

We will also analyze whether the at-fault driver's truck was working properly and in compliance with state and federal safety regulations, and if they violated traffic laws. We will correlate this with the time of day, lighting, and weather to understand the specific driving conditions present at the moment of the crash.

Furthermore, Charles Boyk Law Offices will assess the traffic patterns. Was the area deserted, or congested? The volume of traffic can drastically impact how an accident unfolds. We will look for evidence of construction: the presence of traffic cones, temporary lighting, and the location of other vehicles. These factors can lead to delayed reactions and sudden lane changes by inexperienced drivers or those who were distracted or inattentive.

By meticulously recording these details—from the skid marks on the road to the placement of construction cones—we build a foundation of evidence. This attention to detail allows us to pursue proper compensation while you focus on what matters most: your recovery.

CONTACT US TODAY!

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A New Year Built on Action: Kengo Kato & the Courage to Begin



Kengo Kato

The beginning of a new year has a way of stirring something restless in all of us. Goals feel closer. Ideas feel louder. For Kengo Kato, that restless energy has always been a call to action, not contemplation.

Kengo's journey began long before Toledo knew his name. Raised in New York City by Japanese immigrant parents, he grew up immersed in restaurant life, learning discipline, repetition, and respect for craft at an early age. After training in demanding kitchens across the country, he chose a quieter city with room to build something meaningful. In 2015, that vision materialized as Kengo Sushi & Yakitori—a small,

precise, and uncompromising restaurant that would quickly redefine what many thought was possible in Northwest Ohio.

But opening one successful restaurant didn't relieve the itch. It amplified it.

As the business grew, Kengo made a decision that many founders struggle with: he asked for help. Enlisting the support of his wife, Amanda, helped keep Kengo Sushi & Yakitori alive during the COVID pandemic. That inspired him to ask his sister-in-law and former Boyk Law employee, Anneke Kurt, to help him open Kato Ramen. That partnership helped turn momentum into movement, laying the groundwork for expansion without sacrificing standards or soul. Kengo transitioned from doing everything himself to building intentionally.

The result has been a steady, deliberate unfolding of new concepts. Kato Ramen brought a lifelong ramen dream to life, serving deeply layered broths with the same seriousness Kengo applies to sushi. Shobu by Kengo introduced his philosophy to a broader



audience, proving that excellence can thrive even in high-traffic environments. Most recently, Papa Kato Karaage, a restaurant named in honor of his father, celebrates comfort, legacy, and joy through Japanese fried chicken.

What makes Kengo's story so powerful isn't just the restaurants themselves. It's the pattern. He commits. He builds. He refines. He keeps going. For anyone standing on the edge of a dream this year, waiting for certainty, permission, or perfect timing, Kengo's example offers a quiet challenge. Progress doesn't come from waiting. It comes from movement, trusting the work, and knowing when to invite others in.

The new year doesn't ask for perfection. It asks for courage. And Kengo Kato has shown, again and again, what happens when you answer that call.

From the Heat of the Kitchen to the Page: How Opening Restaurants Inspired *Heard*



Some stories don't begin at a desk. They are born in motion, during late nights, as half-written notes, in construction dust, during menu tastings, and the quiet adrenaline of bringing something new into the world. For Anneke Kurt, the process of helping plan and open multiple restaurants wasn't just operational work. It became creative fuel. And eventually, it became a book.

As Anneke worked alongside her family to help bring restaurants like Kato Ramen, Shobu by Kengo, and Papa Kato Karaage to life, she found herself deeply moved by the rhythm of it, the trust required, the pressure, the problem-solving, and the unspoken stories unfolding behind the scenes. What surprised her most wasn't how much she enjoyed the work. It was how profoundly it mirrored her own inner journey.

That realization became the foundation for *Heard*.

Heard is not a business book, nor is it a traditional restaurant story. It's a reflective memoir about finding one's voice after years of living in reaction mode, personally, professionally, and emotionally. The restaurant openings served as both setting and catalyst: places where Anneke observed what happens when people commit fully to their craft, speak clearly about what matters, and stop apologizing for wanting more.

Throughout *Heard*, Anneke weaves moments from kitchens, travels, and everyday life into a larger narrative about self-trust. Readers move through scenes of planning meetings and opening days alongside moments of solitude abroad, late-night journaling, and personal reckoning. The common thread is listening—listening to intuition, to discomfort, to the quiet knowing that something needs to change.

What makes the book resonate is its honesty. Anneke doesn't position herself as having it all figured out. Instead, she writes from the middle, from the mess and momentum of building things while simultaneously rebuilding herself. The same courage it takes to open a restaurant, to risk criticism, to commit publicly, and stand behind your decisions, is the courage she explores on the page.

For readers stepping into a new year feeling restless, uncertain, or on the edge of reinvention, *Heard* offers reassurance without clichés. It reminds us that

inspiration often shows up while we're busy doing the work, and that clarity follows action, not the other way around.

Sometimes, the bravest thing you can do is say yes to the process. And sometimes, if you're listening closely enough, that process becomes a story worth telling.

Book Review by Chuck Boyk

"Heard: Risk, Ramen and the Recipe That Rewrote My Life"

is a memoir by Anneke Kurt. The book traces her life from a young girl, a college student, a marketing manager, a wife, a mother, and then facing severe domestic abuse. There is much happiness, despair, and most importantly, a happy ending to the book. I have known Anneke personally for over 15 years as a boss, a friend, and someone very close to my family. She faces tremendous adversity and overcomes it. She searches for happiness and finds fulfillment right in front of her by working with her brother-in-law, Kengo Kato.



There is an old classic motivational book called "Acre of Diamonds." The lesson was that the man searched for diamonds all over the world, and the diamonds ended up at the place where he started. Anneke has found her Acre of Diamonds. I recommend this heartfelt book to everyone.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE: BECKY CASTEELS



Becky Casteels started at Boyk Law in 2021 as our receptionist, before she was promoted to work on Subrogation and retrieving Medical Records for our clients. She requests medical records and coordinates with providers to make sure bills are paid by our clients' health insurance.

When our client is involved in a motor vehicle accident and gets medical treatment, Becky and our Subrogation Team work to ensure their medical providers bill their health insurance company, instead of going directly through the auto insurance company. This typically results in more money for our client after their medical bills are paid.

"Your health insurance has a contract with the medical providers," explains Becky. "That contract says they're going to pay a certain fee or percentage of a charge for services, and the rest can be written off. So it means more money from the settlement will ultimately go to the client."

As you receive treatment, Becky tracks down the hospital and doctor bills to keep your case moving

forward. Some medical providers handle their own billing, while others use a third-party service, which can complicate the process and create delays. Knowledgeable and experienced professionals like Becky can navigate the system and help keep the wheels moving in the right direction.

"I feel like I am helping the client because we're getting more money for them," says Becky. "If I get the bills paid by their health insurance, then that ends up being more money in their pocket."

Becky grew up in West Toledo and graduated from DeVilbiss High School. She has an older brother and a younger brother. She has been married to her husband, Mike, for 30 years. They have four children (two girls and two boys) and five Grandchildren.

"I loved going to sporting events for my kids, and now I enjoy doing that with my grandkids," says Becky. "They play broomball, baseball, and softball."

In her spare time, Beckly loves to read. "I was the person who hid a book inside her textbook in high school," she says. Today, she downloads new reads to her Kindle e-book. She enjoys romance, murder mysteries, and sometimes science fiction.

She admits that her guilty pleasure is Reality TV. "I'm a big reality TV junkie," admits Becky. "I love Below Deck, Real Housewives, Survivor, Amazing Race, and all of the FBI shows, especially Law and Order."

If you like free stuff, you can thank Becky for that! She works with Chuck to select fun items to help market the

firm. "I gather options from some of the promotional item vendors," explains Becky. "Then, I meet with Chuck. One of my favorites is the mints that are shaped like little dog bones."

She has a soft spot in her heart for the office dogs. "It's nice to see the dogs," Becky says. "Ruby the golden retriever comes to visit me every day, and then there's Iggy, the three-legged mutt who works in another nearby office. It's really nice to have them coming by for treats and a belly rub."

She used to bring her dog, Boo-Boo, to the office, but as he got older, he came in less frequently. He passed away in 2024.

"I keep saying that I am going to get another dog, but I have my son's dog, Apollo, living at home. He's an Australian Shepherd. I guess that makes him my grand-dog."

You may recognize Becky from one of the community events where she represents Charles Boyk Law. "I enjoy volunteering for the events and charities we work with," says Becky. "I think participating in events like Acoustics for Autism and the Roche de Boeuf festival is a great way to be involved in the community. And I also enjoy spending time with my co-workers outside of the office."

If you visited the Charles Boyk Law booth at one of these events, you may have walked away with a t-shirt or other Boyk Law Swag.

"I enjoy seeing everyone come by our tent to say hello," says Becky. "I always encourage them to sign up to win one of our prize baskets, t-shirts, and other fun Boyk Law stuff."

CASES OF INTEREST: FEBRUARY 2026

Boy Scout Assault Results in Broken Femur

Our client, a sociable and well-liked six-year-old with special needs, was thriving in school and excited to participate in his first year as a Boy Scout at his local church in Bowling Green, Ohio. Tragically, during a meeting when his supervising adult stepped outside for a vape break, our client was assaulted by a fifth-grade scout. The older child repeatedly jumped on, kicked, and punched our client's leg until his femur fractured.

The attack necessitated emergency surgery and will require our client to be in a cast for the next six months. He also lost two teeth as a result of the incident. This act of violence has abruptly disrupted the life of a happy, socially engaged child who was proudly beginning his scouting journey.

Following this horrific act, the team at Charles E. Boyk took immediate action to secure justice and recovery for our young client and his family. We are conducting a thorough investigation into the failures of supervision by the adult volunteer and the broader accountability of the Boy Scouts organization for allowing this violence to occur.

Biking Tragedy on Summit Street

Tragically, on New Year's Eve, our client's life was cut short by a hit-and-run driver. While our client was lawfully stopped at a red light on Summit Street, a careless motorist swerved into the bike lane, striking him from behind and launching him into the intersection. The driver cruelly fled, leaving our client without assistance.

Despite emergency transport to the hospital, our client did not survive. Adding great sadness to this loss is the fact that he was biking home from a visit with his mother, who is fighting cancer in a nursing home.

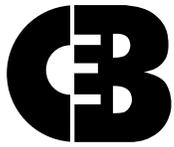
At Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, we are already building an aggressive and compassionate case to secure justice. Our immediate steps include launching a full investigation to identify the fleeing driver, utilizing traffic and private surveillance cameras, and working with accident reconstruction experts. Simultaneously, we will pursue all available avenues for compensation, including uninsured motorist coverage, to hold the responsible party accountable and provide for the profound losses his family now faces.

Fatal Pedestrian Crash

A simple walk across Monroe Street on a rainy December afternoon turned into an unthinkable tragedy. Our client, a beloved member of our community, was struck and killed by an oncoming vehicle while crossing near the local landmark Jo Jo's Pizza. This sudden and violent loss has left a family in mourning and a community in shock.

At Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, we have immediately begun the crucial work of building a powerful wrongful death claim. We are securing all police and accident reports, dispatching our investigators to document the scene, and researching for witnesses and video footage from nearby businesses like Jo Jo's. We will analyze the weather conditions, road design, and the driver's actions to establish clear liability for this preventable death.





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February's Raving Fan of the Month

"I am very pleased with the services provided for me at Charles Boyk Law Offices. Mark kept me informed every step of the way... Also, they get right to the job as soon as you complete your 1st initial appointment. Their hospitality is A1 inside & outside the office. They make you know & feel cared for. Thank you, guys!" – Leshia M.

Have a positive review to share?

Go to boykreviews.com to tell us about your experience!

BOYK LAW OFFICES DRAPED IN HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Charles Boyk Law Offices held a holiday decorating contest at our Holland Office. Different parts of our building formed teams to transform their hallways into a winter wonderland. Photos and videos were posted to our Facebook page, and a winner was selected.

Zac Shaffer, Miranda Price, Becky Casteels, Joshua Gurwell, and Teresa Richardson transformed their corner of the building into the Polar Express, complete with railroad tracks, trees, and a train car, with an appearance from Santa and the Conductor.



(L-R) Zac Shaffer, Teresa Richardson, Becky Casteels, Joshua Gurwell



Jasmine Rosza



(L-R) Mark Faulhaber, Malina Wiltshire, Tammy Bronowski



BOYK LAW DELIVERS CLOTHING FOR LARCHMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Charles Boyk Law Offices delivered a bundle of coats, hats, gloves, and blankets to Larchmont Elementary School to help its students and families stay warm this winter.

Larchmont recently made an urgent appeal for winter clothing and blankets on their Facebook page. "Many of our families are struggling to provide basic winter clothing," says Larchmont Elementary Principal Kari Sharp.

Charles Boyk Law Offices collected new and gently used coats, hats, gloves, and scarves at our Holland Office throughout December. We delivered the first batch of winter items to Larchmont on Jan 13th. Charles Boyk Law Offices will continue the Winter Clothing Drive through the end of February.

If you can donate new or gently used winter clothing, contact Larchmont Elementary School at 419-671-3650, or drop it off at Charles Boyk Law's Holland Office, at 1500 Timberwolf Drive.



Larchmont Principal Kari Sharp

New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know!

Call (419) 241-1395 or e-mail marketing@charlesboyk-law.com