



The BOYK LAW REPORT

A Story of Love, Loss & Justice by Mike Bruno

This is a story of love. A love between a man and a woman. A love that endures and even strengthens despite unimaginable challenges. A love that serves as an inspiration to all of us.

Jim and Kayla grew up in Northeast, Ohio. Their mothers worked together, and they started dating when they were 14. They stayed close during their college years in Northwest Ohio. They married after graduation, started their careers, and planned a wonderful future together.

The couple learned that their first child was going to be a girl in 2021. She arrived on December 8th, a little earlier than expected, requiring a couple of weeks in the NICU.

Upon discharge from the hospital, their baby did well. She was gaining weight, and her pediatrician was pleased with her development. After she was home for a month, things took a turn for the worse. She became lethargic. Her appetite decreased, and shortly thereafter came vomiting and diarrhea.

Jim and Kayla took the baby to the pediatrician. Because she was losing weight, the doctor recommended a hospital admission. On January 28th, the child was admitted to a local children's hospital to manage her dehydration from intractable diarrhea. She spent the next 14 days at that hospital with Jim and Kayla, or both, at bedside, while doctors and nurses struggled to provide nourishment and maintain her inputs and outputs.

Kayla, describe the situation as follows: "It was really challenging because we didn't know what was going on. But we also had so much faith in the doctors that they were going to do what needed to be done... Things kept getting worse and worse, and she ran out of places to have an IV. And we felt really uncomfortable about her dehydration. And the doctors were very, very adamant that they were doing all they could for her, and that reassured us.

I remember waking up... looking at her, and saying, "This isn't right; something is wrong." And so I called the doctors, and they came in, and they did an assessment of her, and they said, oh, something's not right; we need to get her to the PICU..."

Kayla and Jim were experiencing every parent's worst nightmare. Their sick child was getting worse. The baby then suffered cardiac arrest, a stroke, and developed a blood clot in her lower left leg. She was transferred to a children's hospital in Columbus. At that time, she weighed slightly over 4 lbs.

While in Columbus, her leg worsened. Kayla observed: "They told us pretty quickly that there wasn't much hope to do surgery to remove the clot, so we were probably watching her foot die for about a month. Honestly, it was quite a long time. It was to the point where the nurses were, like, hey, her toes might turn black and fall off. Just be aware that might happen."

Even once it became clear that the doctors couldn't save the leg, there were still agonizing delays, Jim recalls: "So we just kind of had to sit there and watch every day... More tissue died and the discoloration spread until they found a hard, fast line where there was still healthy tissue. And that gave them an idea where they would amputate. It was hard to watch.



We both did some pretty extensive trauma counseling after the cardiac arrest and the leg amputation."

It was about that time that Jim and Kayla were referred to Boyk Law. Upon hearing their concerns and compelling story, we agreed to take the case. We first ordered the full hospital records. Following that, we retained a prominent critical care pediatric expert with 35 years of experience to review the records.

After doing so, our expert concluded that the hospital doctors failed to provide the child with treatment that met the accepted standards of medical care. Further, our experts concluded that had the child been treated properly, she would not have suffered cardiac arrest, stroke, or amputation of her lower left leg.

Next up – filing the malpractice lawsuit. The hospital and its doctors fought the case. They brought in prominent doctors who countered our experts and their conclusions. More than 15 depositions were taken, including two in California and one in North Carolina. The court case took over 3 years. Additional experts were necessary, including a pediatric life care planner, a vocational expert, and a Johns Hopkins professor of pediatric neurology.

Medical malpractice cases are among the most challenging legal matters. Such cases proceed to trial much more often than other civil cases. They are emotionally draining, and the doctors tend to take matters personally.

After discussing the case with Jim and Kayla, we next focused on settlement. To that end, we hired the number one mediator in Ohio to assist. We had Greg Tye, our firm's AV specialist, create a moving video of the child and her family interacting, which we used to depict her limitations effectively. These efforts brought the case to an end. The case was settled for a confidential amount.

As Maya Angelou famously stated: "Love recognizes no barrier. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope."



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The Power of Video in Building Stronger Cases

In today's legal profession, effective case preparation requires more than experience and legal knowledge. It also requires the right technology. One tool that has become especially valuable at our firm is a portable video camera. These compact recording devices allow us to capture important conversations and interactions and review them later with a level of detail that you can't capture in your handwritten notes.

By recording depositions, client preparation sessions, focus groups, and witness interviews, these devices have helped us preserve details that might otherwise have been missed and ensure that no important observation is overlooked.

Depositions are a great example. Watching video footage allows viewers to evaluate not only what a witness says, but how they say it. Facial expressions, body language, pauses, and reactions can provide important context that doesn't always come through in a written transcript. Those observations can be valuable when assessing credibility, preparing for trial, or evaluating settlement options.

We also use video recordings during focus groups, and we'll review them to

understand potential jurors' reactions, see which arguments resonate most, and identify potential concerns before trial. We've shown focus group participants clips from recorded depositions, and many have said that seeing and hearing the client or witness firsthand changed their perspective.

Video has also proven helpful when preparing clients and expert witnesses. By reviewing practice examinations and prep sessions, we can identify areas for improvement, refine our questions, and help clients feel more prepared for testimony. Recordings also allow us to evaluate expert witness presentations, improve clarity, and ensure their opinions are communicated as effectively as possible.

Beyond these uses, recorded meetings and case discussions help preserve information, reduce misunderstandings, and create a reliable record of key discussions and decisions. Knowing that important discussions are being recorded also allows us to stay focused and fully engaged in the conversation, rather than worrying about noting every detail or risking that something important may be overlooked. The ability to revisit conversations and presentations is what allows our team to continuously improve and maintain consistency throughout the life of a case.

When Attorneys Work Together, Clients Win by Chuck Boyk

I recently had the pleasure of personally delivering a referral fee check to a criminal defense attorney who had referred a case to our office several years ago.

When he saw the amount, his eyes widened, and he wrapped me in a bear hug. That moment reminded me why professional relationships matter.

About four years ago, this attorney, who has an outstanding reputation in his own field, referred our firm a highly complex child medical malpractice case.

From the beginning, he helped lay the groundwork and worked closely with us to build trust and maintain the relationship with the family. Over the next several years, the case required extensive depositions, significant medical and legal research, and more than \$85,000 in case expenses.

After years of hard work, we were finally able to reach a confidential settlement through private

mediation. Most importantly, the result provided peace of mind for the family and helped secure the financial future of the child involved.

Some people question referral fees in the legal profession. I see it differently.

In this case, an attorney recognized a matter outside his area of expertise and connected the family with lawyers who had the experience and resources necessary to handle it properly.

He stayed involved, helped support the process, and played an important role in achieving a positive outcome.

At the end of the day, referral relationships done the right way are not about compensation. They are about collaboration.

And most importantly...

They help clients get the representation they deserve.



Cocktails, Connections & A Beautiful Toledo Evening

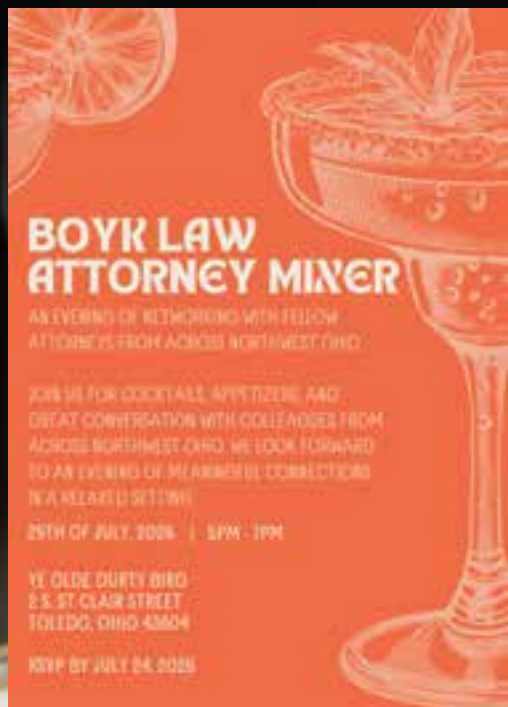
Boyk Law recently brought together attorneys from across Northwest Ohio for a relaxed evening of cocktails, conversation, and connection at Ye Olde Dirty Bird in Downtown Toledo.

Those who joined us settled in for the evening, mingling and enjoying cocktails and appetizers on the restaurant's beautiful covered patio. The weather cooperated perfectly, providing an ideal backdrop for catching up with familiar colleagues and making some new connections.

We added a few Boyk touches to the evening as well. Our Boyk Pawyers cards doubled as drink tickets, Boyk swag found plenty of new homes, and guests received a magnetic desk sculpture as a small token of our appreciation. There was even a special Boyk Bomb on the cocktail menu!

There were no presentations and no formal agenda—just an opportunity for members of the local legal community to spend time together outside of the courtroom and office.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening such an enjoyable one. We look forward to creating more opportunities to connect with our colleagues throughout Northwest Ohio.



Boyk Law Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers®

We're proud to share that Charles E. Boyk and Michael Bruno have been recognized in the 2027 edition of The Best Lawyers in America®, an honor that reflects the respect they have earned among their peers in the legal community.

Best Lawyers 2027

The recognition includes work across several practice areas:

- **Medical Malpractice Law – Plaintiffs**
- **Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants to Plaintiffs**
- **Workers' Compensation Law – Claimants**
- **Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants**

Best Lawyers® recognition is based entirely on peer review, with attorneys evaluating the professional abilities of other lawyers practicing in the same areas of law and geographic regions. That makes this distinction especially meaningful—it is recognition that comes directly from fellow members of the legal profession.

For Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, honors like these reinforce what has guided our firm for more than four decades: a commitment to hard work, strong advocacy, and caring for the people who trust us during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

Congratulations to Chuck and Mike on this well-deserved recognition!

PROVEN. TRUSTED. LOCAL.

David Bressman ★★★★★

"Known Chuck for over 20 years. He is that rare combination of great lawyer and damn good person. I would not hesitate to hire Chuck to represent any member of my family."

Co-Counsel Opportunities

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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We handle a wide variety of personal injury cases, including auto, motorcycle, pedestrian/bicycle, slip-and-fall, premises liability, dog bite, wrongful death, minor settlements, and workers' compensation. We accept product liability and mass tort cases and are committed to representing victims and survivors of sexual assault and abuse and providing assistance to other attorneys and firms litigating these cases.

A Newsletter by Attorneys, For Attorneys

The **BOYK** LAW REPORT

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 12
SEPTEMBER, 2026



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IS DOING IN THE
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But if you do, we hope you remember
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And if someone you know
needs help after an accident...

Refer them to a team trusted
by Ohio families for 40+ years.



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