



MELDON

LAW TALK

NEWSLETTER FROM THE LAW OFFICE OF JEFFREY MELDON & ASSOCIATES

August 2013

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Lawyer Jokes (Inspired by The Sky's Bob Rose)

Actual Stupid Courtroom Questions

How many times have you committed suicide?

So, you were gone until you returned?

Was it you or your brother that was killed in the war?

The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

Were you alone or by yourself?

Were you present in court this morning when you were sworn in?

Was that the same nose you broke as a child?

Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, in most cases he just passes quietly away and doesn't know anything about it until the next morning?

Attorney: "I show you Exhibit 3 and ask if you recognize that picture."
"Yes, that is me" responds the defendant. The attorney then asks, "Were you present when that picture was taken?"



Megan Connelly

Nicole Gives Megan Thanks!

"Thanks to Megan Connelly. This is how my desk looked when I returned from a week and a half vacation.

Megan is the best organizational assistant ever!" Nicole Talcik,
Case Manager/Paralegal



The Beginning Of The "New Year" Is Here ...

August and Labor Day (September 2) historically signals the end of summer and the start of a new school year (August 19) and Gator football season (August 31)!

Here is a brief history of Labor Day, the "working person's holiday":

- **Labor Day's origins** began over a century ago in New York City at the height of the industrial revolution, when the average American worked 12-hour days, seven days a week in order to eke out a basic living in unsafe working conditions.
- **The Knights of Labor** initiated the day in 1882 as a celebration of the American factory workers .
- The Knights of Labor, founded by nine Philadelphia tailors in 1869, **was one of the most powerful labor organizations of the 19th century.**
- **The Knights of Labor demanded an end to child labor, equal pay for women, and an eight-hour-work day through unionism.**
- Membership in the Knights of Labor **was open to all wage earners, except doctors, lawyers, bankers, traders, and manufacturers of liquor.**

As we enjoy our long weekend, let us take time to appreciate the benefits we have today because of the early Labor movements and the contributions workers have made to the power and prosperity of our great country.

Serving the "Heart of Florida" and the entire state for accidents, personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, dog bites, slip and falls, as well as DUI and criminal representation since 1971.

- **Consultations are always free, welcomed, and just a call away. 800 373 8000 or 352 373 8000**
- If you have a legal situation that my Law Firm does not handle, I will gladly refer you to a trusted attorney who does.
- To all who referred friends and family or have gone out of their way to send notes of appreciation, I thank you! *Jeffrey Meldon*



The Law Office of Jeffrey Meldon & Associates is dedicated to public safety & education. We are always on the look-out for timely safety news and reminders to pass along.

“AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE!” Ben Franklin



Good News—Tune in and Tune in!

With so many driving distractions, it is refreshing to hear about a recent study that suggests a way to actually boost a driver's concentration on the road.

A Holland study led by an environmental and traffic psychologist at the University of Groningen concluded that drivers who did this one thing while driving than the control group not doing this one thing reacted more quickly to traffic conditions in a simulator test.

What is this one thing that boosts concentration while driving? Listening to music!

Reminder, this study only focused on listening to music and did not on singing or dancing to it. The participants in the study were also not changing radio stations or other driving distractions.

“Trivial Pursuit”—Do you know your August and Labor Day facts ?

- Q: Labor Day is considered the last day of the year when it is fashionable to where what color?
- Q: Labor Day was signed into law in 1894 by President _____.
- Q: How many actual school days are there for students in Marion and Alachua Counties Public Schools?
- Q: Hawaii became the _____ state on August 21, 1959. Hawaii is the only state that grows coffee. True/False
- Q: Hawaii consists of eight main islands. The largest island, known as “The Big Island,” is the island of _____.
- Q: Honolulu is the capital of Hawaii. What island is Honolulu on?
- Q: Who won the SEC championship in Atlanta in 2012?

Answers: White, Grover Cleveland, 180 days, 50th, True, Hawaii, Oahu, Alabama

The Attorneys That Wrote The Book on DUI

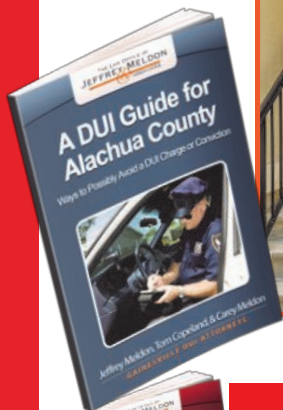


Attorneys Tom Copeland, Jeffrey Meldon, Carey Meldon

With the Gator season upon us, please remember to not drink and drive! You can:

- Take a cab;
- Designate a sober driver ahead of time; or
- Watch the game at home and don't drive.

GOOO GATORS!



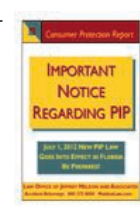
Protect yourself and your family before and after an accident!

Most people think it will never happen to them. However, statistics show that one in five will be involved in a traffic crash each year.

How can you protect yourself and family?

Be safe, educated, adequately insured, and prepared!

Consumer Protection Guides



Cell Phone Charger

Give us a call. Available 24/7
Consultations and Case Evaluations are FREE!

DO NOT TEXT AND DRIVE!

Case of the Month—*Good things come to those who wait...*

A few years ago, our client, a 31 year-old man from Old Town, went to the store to buy some chips and soda in his pick-up truck on a two-lane road around 11:30 p.m. When driving around a curve, another vehicle was in his lane and heading right for him. Our client took evasive actions by veering to the left to avoid the oncoming car. Unfortunately, the car in the wrong lane struck the bed of our client’s pick-up truck on the passenger side. The impact was so severe that it tore the cargo bed off the truck.

Our client was transported by ambulance to the hospital, treated, and released. He continued working over the following year, but in extreme pain. He finally underwent lumbar fusion surgery. Unfortunately, he continued experiencing severe pain and was eventually diagnosed with failed back syndrome. Our client was never able to return to work after his surgery.

Due to our thorough investigation and interviewing several eye witnesses we were able to prove that the other driver, although never formally charged by the police, was intoxicated at the time of the accident.

The settlement result? Despite our client having a long history of back problems, we obtained an \$850,000 settlement for him after intense negotiations with the other driver’s two insurance companies.

This case took nearly two years to settle because we advised our client to wait until he had reached, or came close to reaching, maximum medical improvement (MMI) before settling his case. MMI indicates that the injuries have stabilized and are more than likely permanent even with continued medical treatment. Because of this, our expert witnesses were able to more accurately evaluate the extent, cost, consequences, and impact of our client’s injuries on his life.

Moral of the Story: *Even though it is important to wait until injuries are stabilized after a serious accident before settling with the insurance company, it is still vitaly important to seek legal assistance immediately after a serious accident before witnesses and other valuable evidence are no longer available.*

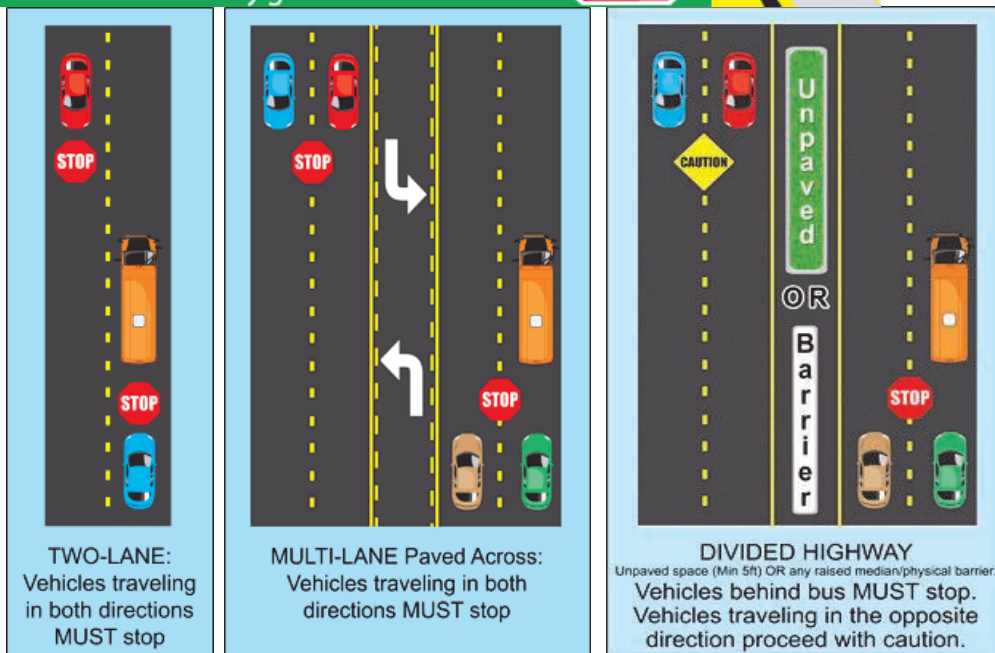


According to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FDHSMV), Florida drivers illegally pass school buses nearly two million times each year!

Each illegal pass-by could result in a tragic injury or fatality of a student.

Knowing when to stop for a school bus can be confusing. These diagrams from FDHSMV help clear up the confusion.

Please see: www.FloridaSchoolBusSafety.gov For more information.



Note: This publication is intended to educate the general public. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is unique.

MELDON LAW TALK NEWSLETTER

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LOOK INSIDE FOR WHEN TO STOP FOR A SCHOOL BUS GUIDE

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The Law Office of Jeffrey Meldon & Associates now has an Ocala office for consultations.
808 East Fort King St.
352-629-5700

Important Dates For The "New Year"

Alachua & Marion Public Schools Calendar 2013/2014

Aug. 19.....First Day of School
Sept. 2.....Labor Day Holiday
Nov. 8.....UF Homecoming (Alachua County)
Nov. 11.....Veterans' Day Holiday
Nov. 28-29.....Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 23Winter Holiday Begins
Jan. 6.....Classes Resume
Jan. 20.....Martin Luther King Holiday
Feb. 17.....President's Day Holiday
March 24-28.....Spring Break
May 26.....Memorial Day Holiday
June 4.....Last Day of Classes (Marion County)
June 5.....Last Day of Classes (Alachua County)

Teacher Work Day Holidays for Marion and Alachua Counties vary and are not included in this chart.

Gator Football Schedule 2013

Aug. 31.....Toledo @ The Swamp
Sept. 7.....Miami @ Miami Gardens—**12:00**
Sept. 21.....* Tennessee @ The Swamp
Sept. 28.....* Kentucky @ Lexington, KY
Oct. 5.....* Arkansas @ The Swamp
Oct. 12.....* LSU @ Baton Rouge, LA
Oct. 19.....* Missouri @ Columbia, MO
Nov. 2.....* Georgia @ Jacksonville, FL—**3:30**
Nov. 9 (Homecoming)...* Vanderbilt @ The Swamp
Nov. 16.....* South Carolina @ Columbia, SC
Nov. 23.....Georgia Southern @ The Swamp
Nov 30.....Florida State @ The Swamp

All games are on Saturdays. Other than the kick-off times stated in this chart, they are TBA.

* Conference Game

Jeffrey Meldon is a proud Life Member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, a prestigious group of trial lawyers throughout the country. Membership is limited to attorneys who have won million dollar verdicts, awards, or settlements for their clients. Less than 1% of U.S. lawyers are members!



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