



# MELDONLAW

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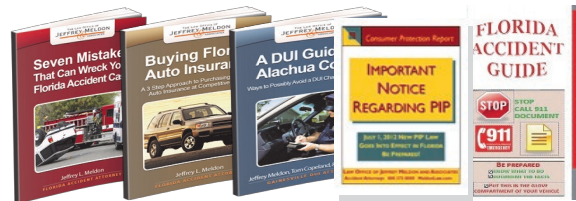
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## final thoughts...

"I feel blessed to come to the office every day, excited about helping people put their lives back together. What better way to spend your life than to be happy about what you do and help others along the way. I would like to thank each and every one of you that have been part of our success at the Meldon Law office over the years." -Jeffrey L. Meldon



Attorney Jeffrey L. Meldon

### Recipe of the Month: Mini Cheeseburger Pies

Hosting a New Year's Eve party? Your guest will love this tasty appetizer, and you'll love the easy preparation.



#### Ingredients:

##### (Burger Mixture)

- 1 lb lean (at least 80%) ground beef.
- 1 large onion, chopped (1 cup).
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce.
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt.

##### (Baking Mixture)

- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (8 oz)
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup Original Bisquick® mix

#### Directions:

- Heat oven to 375°F. Spray 12 regular-size muffin cups with cooking spray.
- In a 10-inch skillet cook beef and onion over medium-high heat 5 to 7 minutes stirring frequently until thoroughly cooked; drain. Cool 5 minutes; stir in Worcestershire sauce, garlic salt and cheese.
- In medium bowl stir baking mixture ingredients with whisk or fork until blended. Spoon 1 scant tablespoon baking mixture into each muffin cup. Top with about 1/4 cup burger mixture. Spoon 1 tablespoon baking mixture onto burger mixture in each muffin cup.
- Bake about 30 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean and muffin tops are golden brown. Cool 5 minutes. With thin knife loosen sides of muffins from pan; remove from pan and place top side up on cooling rack. Cool 10 minutes longer, and serve with garnishes.

### Featured in this issue >>>

-The Law office of Jeffrey Meldon & Associates P.A. undergoes a new name change for the New Year. p.1

-In the Community with the Pledge 5 Foundation. p.2

-Legal Assistant/ Case Manager Carolyn Watson Celebrates 17 years of service at the Meldon Law Firm. p.2



January  
2014

## MELDON LAW TALK NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Newsletter Publication from the Meldon Law Firm

### Attorneys

Jeffrey L. Meldon

Tom L. Copeland

Carey W. Meldon



# MELDONLAW

You Matter Most

Personal Injury

Wrongful Death

Criminal Defense

### New Year's Jokes >>>

- On New Year's Eve, Marilyn stood up in the local pub and said that it was time to get ready. At the stroke of midnight, she wanted every husband to be standing next to the one person who made his life worth living. Well, it was kind of embarrassing. As the clock struck, the bartender was almost crushed to death.
- I have only one resolution. To rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I have all I need and want all I have. Happy New Year!
- **John:** Hey Annette- Did you hear about the big New Year's party on the moon?  
**Annette:** Yeah, it's got a great buffet, but no atmosphere!

Sources: [guy-sports.com](http://guy-sports.com), [jokes4us.com](http://jokes4us.com)



# Happy New Year!

## The Law Office of Jeffrey Meldon & Associates is now Meldon Law.

Throughout the years our law practice has undergone many changes since it's original founding by attorney Jeffrey L. Meldon in 1971. As we embark upon the year 2014, we are implementing a new name and logo.

Change is a constant factor of life and an overall necessary requirement for us to continue to grow and succeed as individuals and as organizations. With the continued hope of better serving our clients and the North Central Florida community as a whole, we are proud to announce that we are changing the name of our office from the Law Office of Jeffrey Meldon & Associates P.A. to Meldon Law. The name change is due to our ability to adapt to the ever-changing trends within the legal profession and our efforts to stand out among the rest. The name change should also be perceived as an acknowledgement of the strength and talent of the attorneys and legal staff within our office while making Meldon

Law the cornerstone of our new identity. As we make these changes and step into a New Year, our office will continue to operate in its current structure with the same dedicated attorneys and staff that you know best, here to serve you and maintain the superior level of legal representation that our legal team has offered to clients for over 40 years. We thank you for your support and for allowing our firm to handle your legal matters, while serving as an educational source to the community for many years to come. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or to request any of our consumer educational materials and/or literature on our various practice areas.

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one."  
-Brad Paisley

## In the Community

**Pledge 5 Foundation** encourages individuals to develop charitable habits by organizing manageable charity drives and volunteer opportunities.



Pledge 5's main mission is to create 5 hour service opportunities for members of the community to participate in. These opportunities are tailored for people who don't typically have a lot of money or time to donate, but would still like to make a difference in the community.



### January's Service Event

For the month of January, Pledge 5 will be volunteering at the Gainesville Rabbit Rescue on Saturday, January 18th, at 9:00 A.M. Volunteers will take part in cleaning cages, grooming, feeding, and caring for the rescued rabbits. To find out how you can take part in this service opportunity and other commu-

nity service projects throughout the year, please contact Pledge 5 directly at (352) 325-3514/ or visit [www.pledge5.org](http://www.pledge5.org).



### Millhopper Family Dentistry Will Host its Fifth Annual "Care to Share" Event.

Millhopper Family Dentistry is helping to change lives by offering free smiles to the underserved who need dental work as they offer a free day of dentistry. The fifth annual "Care to Share" event will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2013, in conjunction with Valentine's Day. For more information, please contact Millhopper Family Dentistry at: (352) 562-7010/ or visit [www.milhopperfamilydentistry.com](http://www.milhopperfamilydentistry.com)

## This month's cases of interest: January 2014

Each month our staff takes a number of calls from people within the North Central Florida Community. Although we aren't always able to take every case we receive, there is always an opportunity to educate others. Here are a few cases worth discussing.



**Diligent Investigation Sometimes Leads to a Recovery of more than Insurance Policy Limits.** We handled a motor vehicle case where our client sustained injuries and damages that exceeded the at fault driver's insurance policy limits. Our legal team conducted a detailed search of the at fault driver's assets and were able to recover an additional sum of money in excess of his insurance policy limits directly from the at fault driver. This demonstrates how taking the time to investigate and consider all options in a case helps us get maximum results for our client.

**The Escaped Cow isn't Held Responsible, but Neither was the Farmer.** Our client's vehicle was damaged when he unexpectedly ran into a cow standing in the road one evening just after a recent storm. Authorities say the cow escaped from his owner's property after the storm caused a tree to fall on the fence where the cow was secured (Legally considered an act of God. The cow was killed as a result of the accident). After investigating the facts of the case, we found that the cow's owner wouldn't be held responsible for our client's vehicle damages due to current laws that protect the owners of livestock if negligence on the livestock owner's part can't be established. In an event like this, you want to make sure that your vehicle has the proper insurance coverage, including PIP, Medical Payments and Collision. With the proper insurance coverage, your out-of-pocket expenses for medical treatment and to repair or replace your vehicle may be minimal or eliminated all together. This was a tough lesson learned for our client, but a chance for others to learn about ways to protect themselves from such financial losses.



Congratulations To our Jeffrey Meldon/ TV20 Scholar Athletes of the Week!

The Meldon Law Firm has sponsored the Scholar Athlete Program since 1997. Every week of the school year a high school senior in the North Central Florida area is chosen as the Scholar-Athlete of the Week and given a \$100 scholarship and a plaque. At the end of the school year we hold a banquet for all the winners and their families. Last year nearly 200 people attended the Scholar Athlete Banquet where one male and one female were chosen as **The Scholar Athlete of the Year**. The winners receive a \$1,000 scholarship plus a beautiful glass trophy commemorating their achievement. Starting in 2003 the Meldon Law Firm teamed up with WCJB TV20 to promote the event widely on TV 20.



### We are here for you...

Serving the "Heart of Florida". We are experienced personal injury attorneys, trial lawyers, negotiators, litigators, case managers, and staff that have been proudly working to get accident victims the justice they deserve for over 40 years in Gainesville, Ocala, Lake City, Inverness, and the rest of North Central Florida and North Florida. Accidents involving a car crash, truck wreck, and motorcycle, bicycle, or pedestrian accidents, dog bites, slip and falls and medical malpractice are all included in our practice, as well as criminal defense. Feel free to contact our office to let us know how we can help you. Call us at (352) 373-8000 or visit us online at [www.MeldonLaw.com](http://www.MeldonLaw.com) today!

## Office Highlights

Legal Assistant/ Case Manager Carolyn Watson celebrates 17 years of service at the Meldon Law Firm! "Carolyn has constant dedication to her clients and is always willing to go the extra mile to make sure our clients get the best result possible. Her broad base of experience makes her a valuable asset to the office and to personal injury clients." - Attorney Jeffrey Meldon

Carolyn Watson serves as a Legal Assistant/Case Manager in the Personal Injury Department here at the Meldon Law firm. As she now celebrates her 17th year of service, Carolyn says "What I like most about my profession and job is working to keep insurance companies from taking advantage of injured victims." Carolyn is originally from Manhattan, New York, moved to South Florida and eventually to the Gainesville area thirty (30) years ago. She and her husband Eric like to spend as much of their free time as possible on the ocean and on the gulf boating and fishing.

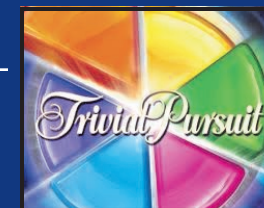


Carolyn Watson:  
Legal Assistant/Case Manager

### January 's "Trivial Pursuit" >>>

#### Questions:

1. What name do the Scots give to New Year's Eve?
2. What name is given to the Jewish New Year?
3. Which American President issued the Emancipation Proclamation on New Year's Day 1863?
4. Which band took New Year's Day to number 10 in the charts in 1983?
5. The traditional New Year Ball Drop takes place at which New York City landmark?



Answers: 1. Hogmanay, 2. Rosh Hashanah, 3. Abraham Lincoln, 4. U2, 5. Times Square

### Our Most Recent Scholar Athletes!

**Nov. 14, 2013: Kira Lowell** from Vanguard H.S. of Ocala for Volleyball—Kira is a bundle of energy, with a bundle of talent, and brains to match. Kira has a 4.95 GPA and has a chance to play volleyball at UF, FSU, UCLA or Cal-Berkley. As the libero on the Vanguard H.S. volleyball team, Kira has led her team to two consecutive state championships.

**Nov. 21, 2013: Trey Marshall** from Columbia H.S. for Football—Trey has recovered from a ruptured stomach to lead the C.H.S. football team into the second round of the Class 6A playoffs. During this time, Trey has maintained a 3.9 GPA, and will enroll at FSU in January to play for the Seminoles.

**Nov. 28, 2013: Wyatt Graziano** from Keystone Heights H.S. for Soccer- As the star midfielder, Wyatt hold his own both on and off the field with a 3.1 GPA in the classroom.

**Dec. 5, 2013: Jacquez Powell** from Trenton H.S. For Football- Jacquez has helped lead the team on both offense and defense this season. Jacquez holds a 3.4 GPA and hopes to play college football upon graduation.