

Attorneys

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MELDONLAW
You Matter Most



Wrongful Death

Personal Injury

Criminal Defense



Lawyer Jokes

Q: How many lawyers does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A: How many can you afford?

Q: What do you get when you cross the God-father with a lawyer?

A: An offer you can't understand

Q: Why won't sharks attack lawyers?

A: Professional courtesy.

• Laugh a Little

A man was walking around Daytona Beach. He stumbles across a lamp, and out comes a genie.

"You only get one wish", says the genie.

The man says: "I want a bridge to Hawaii."

The genie replies "That's too big of a wish.

Think of how much concrete, how much steel... How would the supports ever reach the bottom of the Ocean? No, no, think of another wish", says the genie.

The guy thinks for a minute and says

"Sometimes my wife just stares off into the space and gives me the silent treatment. I wish to understand women better."

The genie replies: "You want that bridge with 2 lanes or 4?"

Happy New Year to all of the subscribers to our Meldon Law Newsletter. It is you who have made our law firm a success beginning in 1971. We are privileged to be able to look forward to coming to work everyday knowing that we are going to help make a difference in people's lives. I am just as excited to walk into my office today as when I was a young 27 year old lawyer. Without any advertising I was able to build a 5 person law firm within 3 years just by doing the same things we do today: treat everyone with respect no matter what their station in life and to feel privileged to be their advocate to the rest of the world.

We hope that in 2016 you are able to make monumental progress in reaching your dreams and aspirations. Whether it is staying connected to family and best friends, achieving success in business, or growing as a person and becoming the "new you", we wish that when you look back at the end of 2016 your can say "I did some good things this past year" Challenge yourself and set "attainable goals" that you can build

on. Rome wasn't built in one day and it might just take putting one foot in front of the other to walk a thousand miles.

We feel so blessed to live in North Central Florida "The Heart of Florida" and enjoy this very special part of the world everyday. This is our home and we are honored to give back to the community through our "Scholar Athlete" program now in its 18th year, our Law Talk Live radio show every Saturday Morning on WSKY 97.3FM in our 14th year, and our new Kids Bike Giveaway program started in 2015. And most of all we feel honored be able to call YOU our MeldonLaw family. Here's to a Happy and Healthy 2016!



Thank You For Your Referral: *Denise Mongiardo of Gainesville*



Denise Mongiardo

Denise Mongiardo from Gainesville is a top performing realtor with Trend Realty. She recently referred a case to the Meldon Law team, knowing that it would be handled with the utmost professionalism. As a thank you for thinking of us when making this referral, we will be making a donation to a charity of Denise's choice in her name.

- The Meldon Law Team



Community Spotlight...

Denise and Cheryl-Trend Realty – Located in Gainesville and Alachua County



Denise Mongiardo and Cheryl Hartley have been in Gainesville/Alachua County all their adult lives. Both have been actively involved in real estate for over 10 years.

As the first-born identical twin, Denise has an exhilarating spirit that motivates those around her to seek excellence and finish first. Her bachelor's degree from St. Leo College, in psychology, affords Denise common-sense practices to listen and understand the expectations of clients. Denise has been a realtor since 2006, after leaving a 20-year career as a cardiovascular specialist. She is dependable, honest, and above all else a respectable nego-

tiator. As a multi-million dollar producer, Denise specializes in all aspects of residential real estate, including new construction.

In 2015, Trend Realty brought 72 transactions to closing. Of the 37 listings they secured this year, 19 have closed and 4 are currently under contract.

Their mission statement:

"We believe in homeownership and strive to provide homes best matched for our customers needs."

"When you give people what they want, you also achieve what you want"



Education:

St. Leo University –BS Psychology
Santa Fe Community College
AS Cardiopulmonary Technology
University of Florida – AA Business

If you are interested in buying residential real estate go to deniseandcheryl.com

Community Events...

-Friday, January 9th at 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Arts and Parks Foundation Showcase at the Thomas Center of Gainesville.

This event will showcase some of the best arts, parks and programs the city has to offer. There will be giveaways, live music, culinary arts and much more. This will highlight the many cultural, recreational and nature activities. For more info, please contact PRCA at 352- 393-8364.

-Friday, January 22nd, at 6p.m.- 10p.m.
Sun Country Sports Center at 333 SW 140th Terrace of Jonesville.

Enjoy an evening to yourself while your children stay active in the safe structured environment. Children will participate in Gymnastics, Rock Climbing, KidQuest, Games and so much more. \$18/members, \$20/non-members. For more info go to www.suncountrysports.com

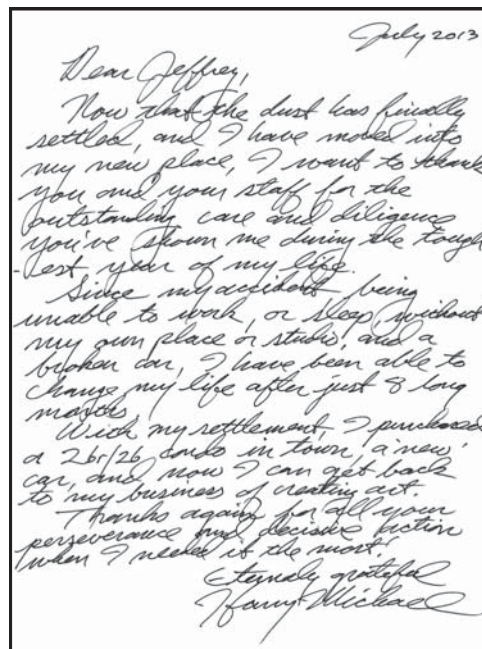
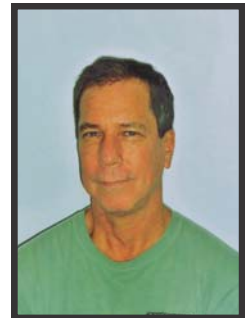
-Starts January 30th, - February 5th at 10 a.m.

Hoggtowne Medieval Faire at Alachua County Fairgrounds of Gainesville.

For two consecutive weekends, the Alachua County Fairgrounds will transform into a medieval marketplace during the 30th Annual Hoggtowne Medieval Faire. For more info please go to www.hoggtownefaire.com

Fan of the Month-Harry Michael

Occasionally, Meldon Law receives "Thank You" letters from our past clients. We would like to take this opportunity to showcase some of our satisfied customers, who will always remain a part of our Meldon Law Family. This letter from a few years back is from our friend and fan, Harry Michael.



Dear Jeffrey,
Now that the dust has finally settled, and I have moved into my new place, I want to thank you and your staff for the outstanding care and diligence you've shown me during the toughest year of my life.
Since my accident, being unable to work, or sleep, without my own place or studio, and a broken car, I have been able to change my life after just 8 long months.
With my settlement, I purchased a 2 br/2b condo in town, a new car, and now I can get back to my business of creating art.
Thanks again for all your perseverance and decisive action when I needed it the most.

Eternally grateful,
Harry Michael

This month's topic of interest:

January 2015

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's a topic worth discussing.

Emergency Medical Services Prep

It's important to stay safe, and to make sure you can be reached in times of emergency. Here are six tips on how to be better prepared in a worst-case scenario.

1. Be accessible to EMT's: Make sure Emergency Medical Services (EMS) has unimpeded access to your driveway. If you live in a single family home, keep trees and bushes trimmed, and if you live in an apartment alert your management that a Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) will need access to your building. They can break down your door if need be, but a faster solution is a spare key. Hide the spare key in a place you will remember to tell dispatch, or call the local EMS and ask it to note the location in their database. If you are in an apartment, make sure management will have the spare key available for EMT's. If EMT's cannot get past your locks, they may not be able to get to you in time. If you are at work, make sure you alert security after calling 911, so they know where to direct the EMT's.

2. Make your house a beacon: To help EMS find you, make sure your house or apartment number is clearly visible, especially at night. If you live in a house, use reflective numbers, or mark the curb with reflective paint. If you live in a condo or apartment, ask management for abundant lighting.

3. Declutter your home: A cluttered house can keep EMS from getting a stretcher into the room where it is needed, and delay life-saving CPR. Make sure to keep pathways between rooms clear. If someone in your household is bedbound, keep space open around them to allow EMTs access.

4. Keep records handy: If EMT's find you alone and unconscious, they will have no idea where to find your medications and records. Keep health cheat sheets on your fridge with a list of your current physicians, medications, and surgeries. Make sure a copy of any advance directives is close to hand.

5. Swap out Confusing Jewelry: There is a recent trend of "fashionable" medical alert bracelets that are unfortunately confused for standard jewelry. The red Star of Life symbol incorporating a medical staff is instantly recognizable and sends the message loud and clear.

6. Alert EMS to Special Circumstances: Occasionally there are situations that an ambulance crew of two EMT's is incapable of handling without backup or special equipment. Phone your local EMS and add a note to your home address file of any special circumstances EMT's should be aware of; for example; a person of size or a dog that may be aggressive to strangers.



Welcoming Back our Meldon Law / WCJB
TV20 Scholar Athletes of the Week !

Meldon Law 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 are chosen as **The Scholar Athletes 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.

Our Most Recent Scholar Athletes!

December 16th, 2015: Jonathan Horodyski from **Buchholz H.S.** for Basketball. His older brother played in High School and College, and his father is the head coach. He puts up 13 points a game and has a 3.9 GPA.

December 9th, 2015: Ray Trimble from **Keystone Heights H.S.** for Football and Soccer. "Touchdown" Trimble has a 3.4 GPA and is planning to attend college for nursing and physical therapy. He has also been nominated as one out of 50 High School Seniors to play in the Eurobowl game as part of the U.S.A team.

December 2nd, 2015: Brooks Martin from **Trenton H.S.** for Football. Martin is a hunter and a fishermen as well as a Scholar Athlete. He has a 3.2 GPA and has been a Varsity player all four years.

To nominate someone for Scholar Athlete of the week, make sure he or she has at least a 3.0 GPA, is a major contributor in his or her sport, and a high school senior. Please send your nominations to **Brandan McCalla** via email at **BMcCalla@divcom.com**, or you can call Brandan at (352) 416-0646.



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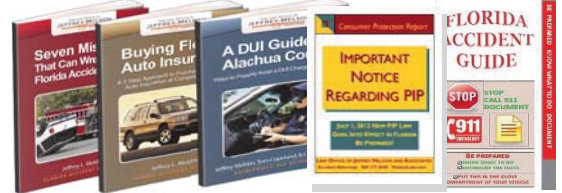


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A Very Happy Holiday at the Meldon Law Office Party

The Meldon Law family has gone through a lot of positive changes this past year. Some colleagues moved on to other opportunities, and we have been extremely fortunate enough to have found some exceptional new team members.

As we reflect back on how much we have changed and improved over the past year, we look forward to the change and growth we will see in 2016. We hope you had a wonderful holiday, and we look forward to working with you in the New Year! The Meldon Law mission is to always work to get justice for our clients, because at Meldon Law, You Matter Most!

This month's "Trivial Pursuit" >>>

Questions:

1. In 1960, John Reynold's set the age of the Solar System at: _____
2. Who took the first known picture of the moon?
3. In 1973, George Steinbrenner III bought the Yankees from CBS for \$ _____
4. In what year was Alaska admitted as the 49th state?
5. Who was the first female artist inducted into the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame?
6. In what year did President Washington deliver the first State of the Union?
7. Which member of the musical group Thin Lizzy died in 1986?
8. Construction began on the Golden Gate Bridge on January 5th, 1933. How long until it was complete?
9. Who did Joe Louis KO in one round for the World Heavyweight boxing title in 1939?
10. Who is J. Fred Muggs?



Answers: 1. 4,950,000,000 2. Louis Daguerre 3. \$12 million 4. 1959 5. Aretha Franklin 6. 1790 7. Phil Lynott 8. Just over 4 years 9. John Henry Lewis 10. A Chimp