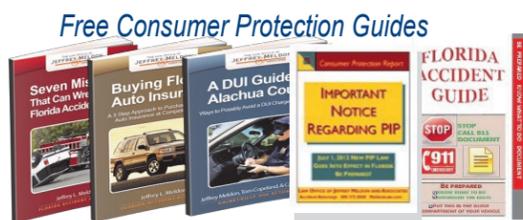


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Serving the "Heart of Florida", we are a team of experienced personal injury attorneys, trial lawyers, negotiators, litigators, case managers, and support staff that have been proudly working to get accident victims the justice they deserve for over 40 years in Gainesville, Ocala, Lake City, Inverness, and throughout the state of Florida. The types of cases we handle include, but are not limited to: accidents involving cars, trucks, motorcycles, bicycle, or pedestrians, dog bites, slip and falls, medical malpractice and criminal defense. Feel free to contact our office to let us know how we can help you. Call us at (800) 373-8000 or visit us online at www.MeldonLaw.com today!

June's "Trivial Pursuit" >>>

Questions:

1. People in the Southern Hemisphere have their longest day of summer in which month ?
2. In the U.S. what is the most popular selling meat grilled throughout the summer?
3. What forms the filling in a Summer Pudding?
4. When was the first bathing suit worn?
5. Which brothers wrote the song *Summertime*?
6. On what day does the Summer Solstice occur in North America?
7. Which percentage of American households buy ice cream each year?
8. Where were the 1968 Summer Olympics held?
9. In 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland', what was done all on a summer's day ?
10. The English word *summer* developed from what Proto-Germanic word for the season ?



Answers: 1. December, 2. Hot Dogs, 3. Fresh Fruit, 4. 350 BC in the country of Greece, 5. George & Ira Gershwin (Along with Dubose Hayward), 6. June 21st, 7. 98%, 8. Mexico, 9. Queen of Hearts made some tarts, 10. Summaraz

Attorneys
Jeffrey L. Meldon
Tom L. Copeland
Carey W. Meldon



Wrongful Death

Personal Injury

Criminal Defense



Would a taste of the finest Swiss chocolate make you happy? Or soaking in the warm Icelandic springs? Perhaps the great jazz and rock music scene in Denmark is for you?

Say It S-l-o-w-l-y...

A man and his wife were driving their RV across Florida and were nearing a town called Kissimmee.

They noted the strange spelling and tried to figure how to pronounce it -- KISS-a-me; kis-A-me; kis-a-ME?

They grew more perplexed as they drove into the town. Since they were hungry, they pulled into a restaurant to get something to eat.

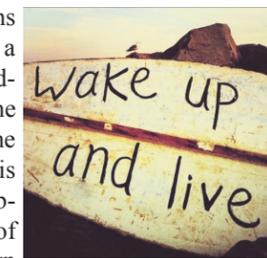
At the counter, the man said to the cashier; "My wife and I can't seem to be able to figure out how to pronounce this place.

Will you tell me where we are and say it very slowly so that I can understand?"

The woman looked at him and said; "Buuurrgerrr Kiiiiinnng."

It's not just the enjoyable activities that make locals and travelers to those countries happy, according to the [Third World Happiness Report](#) People who live in the happiest countries have longer life expectancies and more social support, experience more generosity, have more freedom to make life choices, have lower perceptions of corruption and have a higher gross domestic product per capita. Who is the happiest country in the world? This year it is [Switzerland!](#) The contributing factor must be all of those Swiss skiing down the slopes and indulging in a cup of hot [chocolate](#) while having a good time. Last year Denmark was the [happiest country](#) in the world. What made the Danes fall to No. 3? Not sure, but they are still pretty happy compared to the rest of the world. Canada, our neighbor to the North, comes in at No. 5. We guess all of the cold weather doesn't get them down at all! Maybe the [ice fishing](#) keeps them happy. Visit: www.worldhappieness.report

How about the United States? Well, it seems we are moving up the ladder. We moved up two spots and we are now ranked as the [15th happiest country in the world](#). But before you pack up and move to a [happier](#) country you should be ready for some cold weather. Why? Iceland comes in 2nd and Norway



comes in 4th. So you have your choice of real -estate in Switzerland, Denmark, Canada, Iceland, or Norway to live in ultimate happiness, or you can [keep your feet planted](#) right here in the [Sunshine State](#), enjoying the warm weather and awesome beaches.

There is no single key to [happiness](#), but all of these countries do well in several ways. Being rich? That's good, but it's only a modest part of the story. Trusting society, having a government that ranks low in corruption, a society where people are generous and [volunteering](#), all of these are important for [happiness](#). Even if you don't live in one of the 10 happiest countries in the world, a visit to these happy places will give you a taste of what the locals enjoy every day. Remember, [happiness is not something ready made](#). It comes from your own actions.-Dali Lama

Thank You For Your Referral: Cassie Strickland of Gainesville, FL



Ms. Cassie Strickland

We would like to take the opportunity to recognize Ms. Cassie Strickland of Gainesville, FL for referring a case to our office and trusting us to handle the needs of her family member. As a special thank you, we will be making a donation to a charity of Ms. Strickland's choice in her name.

- The Meldon Law Team



Small Business Spotlight...

Dragonfly Graphics of Gainesville.



Dragonfly Graphics was established in 1976. You might call the now thriving local small business "the little shop that could". They started out at 19 SW 2nd street in Gainesville where clients had to visit their location to place an order. It was an ancient era, before e-mail. As such, their tiny store brimmed with a small gaggle of screen printing staff and a tiny alcove of an office where their customers placed orders.

One owner, fresh out of law school, **Joy Revels**, turned T-shirts into gold. Joy's artful vision paid off. She bought a historic house on the southwest side of town. She planned and executed a custom, commercial renovation, making their shop the classiest screen printing shop ever.

Dragonfly Graphics earned the City Beautification Award, for Innovation in their new location. Their trained, educated graphic artists are the cream of the crop.

Their custom production, years of experience, and high standards will make you a happy client. They print the most cutting edge graphics. Most of all, they print T-shirts with love. They like to do it.

Please visit Dragon Fly Graphics at 319 SW 3rd Avenue in Gainesville or online at www.DragonFlyGraphics.com, or call (352) 375-2144.



Dragonfly Graphics Team of Gainesville.

Photo happenings...

On May 21st, 2015, The Meldon Law team took part in Red Nose Day, a campaign dedicated to raising money for children and young people living in poverty by simply having fun and making people laugh.



Community Events...

June 12th -13th 2015:

The 10 Can Survival Race. Calling all Survivalist, Competitors, Military, and First Responders! Come take part in an adventure for a cause! The Race begins at Blue Springs with a 5K Ruck Challenge through Florida wilderness. Tow your boat 300 yards to the Santa Fe River. Hustle to the Suwannee River, turn upstream to Midway for a timed check-in. Camp on the river's edge, launching in sequence the following morning. Finish strong at Otter Springs where a day long festival awaits. For more information and tickets, please visit: www.EventBrite.com and search "10 Can Survival Race".



Monday, June 22, 2015: Battle of the Sexes Blood Drive. Represent your gender during this week-long competition to see which side can donate the most blood. All blood donors will be entered into daily drawings for AMAZING prizes. You can donate on any of our blood-mobiles around town or at any of our Life South Donor Centers. For more info please visit www.LifeSouth.org, or call (352) 622-3544.

This month's topic of interest:

June 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.



Comparative Negligence in the state of Florida.

If you've been injured in an auto accident, liability for damages depends on who was at fault. Florida law requires that you establish the other party acted in a negligent/ careless manner.

The negligence standard varies from state to state, and there are three different types of comparative systems that determine who is liable for damages; **pure contributory negligence**, **modified comparative fault**, and **pure comparative fault**.

Pure Contributory Negligence

Only four states and D.C. recognize the **Pure Contributory Negligence Rule**, which says that a damaged party cannot recover any damages if they are even 1% at fault.

Modified Comparative Fault

Twelve states follow the **50% Bar Rule**, meaning a damaged party cannot recover if it is 50% or more at fault, but if it is 49% or less at fault, they can recover, although the recovery is reduced by the damaged party's percentage of fault. Twenty-one states follow the **51 percent Bar Rule** under which a damaged party cannot recover if it is 51 percent or more at fault.

Pure Comparative Fault

Thirteen states, including Florida, recognize the **Pure Comparative Fault Rule**, which allows a damaged party to recover even if it is 99% at fault, although the recovery is reduced by the damaged party's percentage of fault.

For example, if you are suing another driver and your actions are deemed to be 30% responsible for causing the crash, then your damages will be decreased by 30%. In other words, you will only be entitled to an award of 70% of your total monetary recovery. In this way, the doctrine of comparative negligence apportions negligence among the various parties involved in the accident.

Under Florida state law, you can establish a negligence claim if the following three conditions are met:

1. The defendant that injured you had a duty not to injure you.
2. The defendant breached that duty.
3. The defendant's failure to meet his or her duty resulted in injury or damages such as past and future medical bills, loss of income, and pain & suffering.

Florida adopted the comparative negligence standard back in 1973 under the rationale that the cause of an accident is not always clear-cut. Accidents are often the product of negligent behavior from multiple parties and each responsible party should shoulder their portion of the blame.

Proving fault is often the difficult part.

It often comes down to the accounts of the drivers and some witnesses. Since the outcome of an automobile accident can rest so heavily on your account of what happened, it is important to be clear and consistent about the events. Be sure to take photos and videos at the scene. Remember to gather names, addresses, and phone numbers of witnesses. Call 911 and let the police investigate the crash.



If you speak to any of the other parties' insurance companies, your statements could be used against you to assign fault to you. It is crucial that you consult with a qualified and experienced lawyer who can help you deal with the insurance companies.

Office Highlights...

Meldon Law & WCJB-TV 20 Hosts the 18th Annual Scholar Athlete Awards Banquet.

The Meldon Law team, in partnership with local ABC News affiliate WCJB-TV20, hosted the 18th Annual Scholar Athlete Awards Banquet on May 12, 2015 at the Hilton Hotel of Gainesville. High School Senior athletes throughout the North Central Florida area were recognized for their academic and athletic achievements by having a banquet held in their honor. Attendees included the friends, family members and various sports coaches of the 36 student athletes who were recognized. Former Gator great and NFL player, Cornelius Ingram, served as the guest speaker for the event. Ingram was the former Scholar Athlete of the Year in 2004 as a senior at Hawthorne H.S.

Each student was awarded a plaque and a \$100 scholarship. Among the student athletes, one male and one female were chosen as the **Meldon Law/ WCJB-TV20 Scholar Athletes of the Year** and each was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and crystal trophy. This year's winners are **Kevarrius Hayes of Suwannee H.S. and Janiah McKay of Gainesville H.S.** both for basket ball. Hayes will play basketball at the University of Florida and McKay will play basketball at Auburn University in the fall.

The city of Gainesville issued a proclamation in honor of the program proclaiming May 12th 2014 as Meldon Law/ WCJB-TV20 Scholar Athlete Day in the City of Gainesville.



Congratulations To Our Jeffrey Meldon/ 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 is 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**.

Our Most Recent Scholar Athletes!

April 16, 2015: Mill Lang from **Trenton High School** for Baseball. Mill is a 3 year varsity player on the Tigers baseball team and one of three senior starters. Mill was also on the Tigers team that won a championship in 2013. In the classroom, Mill holds a 3.2 GPA and will be heading off to college. Eventually he wants to make his way back to the hometown he loves so much.

April 23, 2015: Rachel Mazzurco from **Forest H.S.** for Softball. Rachel is one of 3 seniors on the Forest softball team. She's a 4 year varsity player and her walk-off 2 run home run in a State Semifinal propelled the Wildcats to the Class 6A Championship game which they won. In the classroom Rachel holds a 4.56 GPA and she'll be attending the University of Florida next year.

April 30, 2015: Ashtin Strickland from **Santa Fe H.S.** for Softball. Ashtin is a 4 year varsity player for the Santa Fe softball team. She hits over .400 with 10 home runs, and she's a dominant pitcher with well over 300 strikeouts this season. Her great performance helped the Raiders make it to the State Semifinals. Next year she'll join Florida Atlantic University's softball team.

May 7, 2015: Noah Leake from **Lafayette H.S.** Noah is a 4 year varsity player for the Lafayette baseball team. Leading his team with a .422 batting average and 40 RBI helped take the Hornets to the Regional Finals this year. Noah was also 6-1 with a 2.04 ERA as a pitcher this year. To top it off he has a 3.7 GPA while also taking a number of college courses.