



MELDON

LAW TALK

NEWSLETTER FROM THE LAW OFFICE OF JEFFREY MELDON & ASSOCIATES

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Mother's Day Humor

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! (May 12)

A Mother's Dictionary of Meanings:

Dumbwaiter: One who asks if the kids would care to order dessert.

Feedback: The inevitable result when the baby doesn't appreciate the strained carrots.

Full Name: What you call your child when you're mad at him.

Grandparents: The people who think your children are wonderful even though they are sure you are not raising them right.

Independent: How we want our children to be for as long as they do everything we say.

Puddle: A small body of water that draws other small bodies wearing dry shoes into it.

Show Off: A child who is more talented than yours.

Sterilize: What you do to your first baby's pacifier by boiling it, and to your last baby's pacifier by blowing on it and wiping it with saliva.

Top Bunk: Where you should never put a child wearing Superman jammies.

Whodunit: None of the kids who live in your house.

Mother's Day Thoughts and Quotes:

- **Working mothers** are guinea pigs in a scientific experiment to show that sleep is not necessary to human life.
- **Parents often talk** about the younger generations as if they did not have anything to do with it.

Grandma on the Plane:

For two solid hours the lady sitting next to a man on an airplane had told him about her grandchildren. She had even produced a plastic-foldout photo album of all nine of the children.

She finally realized that she had dominated the entire conversation on her grandchildren.

"Oh, I've done all the talking, and I'm so sorry. I know you certainly must have something to say. Please tell me, what do you think of my grandchildren?" *(Thanks to mothersdaycelebration.com for the smiles.)*



Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in West Virginia. She then began a campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States. Anna was successful in her quest in 1914.

Things Mom Would Never Say:

- "How on earth can you see the TV sitting so far back?"
- "Yeah, I used to skip school a lot too."
- "Just leave the lights on, it makes the house more cheery."
- "Let me smell that shirt—Yeah, it is good for another week."
- "Go ahead and keep that stray dog, honey. I'll be glad to feed and walk him every day."
- "Well, if Rahul's mother says it's OK, that is good enough for me."
- "The curfew is just a general time to shoot for. It's not like I am running a prison around here."
- "I don't have a tissue with me... just use your sleeve."
- "Don't bother wearing a jacket—the wind-chill is bound to improve."

Office News—Who will win?

We are proud to announce that Jeffrey Meldon will host the Annual Scholar Athlete Banquet on May 21. The event will be held at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Gainesville at 7:00 p.m.

At the banquet, the 37 Scholar Athletes of the Week and their families from this school year will be individually honored and awarded a plaque and a \$100 scholarship. The evening will be highlighted by the announcement of the male and female Scholar Athletes of the Year, whom will each receive a glass trophy and a \$1,000 scholarship.

WCJB/TV20 will be covering the event and feature it on the evening and late news. Tune in to find out who are this year's winners!

The Meldon Law Firm serves 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 for Alachua County. **Available to you 24/7.**

Consultations are always free, welcomed, and just a call away. 800 373 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*

MAY IS MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH!

According to the National Safety Council, over two-thirds of car-motorcycle crashes are caused by a driver of a vehicle who does not see the motorcyclist or sees him too late to stop.

Safety tips for drivers:

- **During May and throughout the year**, be aware of motorcycles, look for them. In fact—look twice or three times for the smaller, more difficult to see vehicle, the motorcycle.
- **Look carefully, at least twice, before changing lanes or making a left turn at an intersection**—these are the two most common places for car-motorcycle accidents.



The four most common words said after a car hits a motorcycle? “I didn’t see him!”

Jeffrey Meldon/TV 20 Scholar-Athletes-of-the-Week Winners

The Jeffrey Meldon/TV 20 Scholar Athlete Program is celebrating its 16th year! Every week during the school year, a deserving high school senior is awarded the title, a \$100 scholarship, and a plaque. The award is announced on TV 20’s Thursday evening sports news at 6:00 p.m. The year ends with a sports banquet honoring each scholar athlete, at which a male and female “Scholar-Athlete-of-the-Year” are selected and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and trophy. **This is one of Jeffrey’s favorite community services.**

Here are the recent winners—congratulations!

March 14—**Robby Howell** from Fort White for Baseball—**“Robby is a dominating force on the mound and will play for UCF next year.”**

March 21—**Melinda Geisel** from Lake Weir for Softball—**“Geisel is a star in the classroom with a 4.62 GPA and also on the field.”**

March 28—**Justin Forsythe** from Williston for Baseball—**“Justin is on a hot streak this season on and off the field with a 3.6 GPA.”**

April 4—**Jazz Whittaker** from PK Young for Tennis—**“Jazz just won her fourth straight tennis singles district title and carries a 4.28 GPA.”**

April 11—**Savannah Jerkins** from Santa Fe for Softball—**“Savannah is a star in the circle and with the bat and carries a 4.36 GPA.”**

Jeffrey and Carey Went to Tampa to Speak About DUI Defense



Jeffrey Meldon

Jeffrey and Carey Meldon spoke at a Florida Bar seminar on April 26. The speakers included four judges and six attorneys who spoke on a range of criminal defense topics. Jeffrey and Carey, recognized for their expertise and competence in DUI defense, educated other lawyers on the latest in defending DUI cases.

Here are two important DUI questions for our readers:

Q: What is the best way to avoid requiring Jeffrey and Carey’s DUI defense expertise?

A: Do not drink and drive. Remember, DUI stands for “driving under the influence” and does not necessarily mean drinking alcoholic beverages. A person can also be “under the influence” of legal (prescribed or over-the-counter) or illegal drugs or anything else that impairs a person’s normal faculties.

Q: What are the two most important things to do if you are arrested for DUI in Alachua County?

A: Hire the most experienced and qualified local DUI legal team to represent you and do it ASAP (waiting will only hurt your case).



Carey Meldon

Protect yourself and your family before and after an accident!

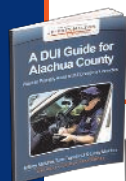
Most people think it will never happen to them. However, statistics show that one in five will be involved in a traffic crash each year.

How can you protect yourself and family?

Be safe, educated, adequately insured, and prepared!



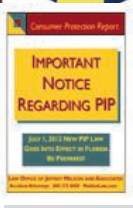
Insurance Guide **1-800-373-8000**



Help! App



Consumer Protection
Accident Guide Book



Give us a call, available 24/7—Consultations and Case Evaluations are **FREE!**

Texting While Driving—A Preventable Epidemic! *What can you do?*

Florida will hopefully soon join the ranks of all but four other states that have laws prohibiting texting while driving. *The Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving* bill is currently being considered by the Florida legislation.

Texting while driving, an epidemic in today's world, involves all three types of distraction—visual, manual, and cognitive.

Studies have shown that texting while driving, *an avoidable and dangerous activity*,:

- increases the risk of a crash by 23 times;
- is the equivalent of drinking four beers before getting behind the wheel; and
- takes the driver's eyes off the road for an average of five seconds.

There are things that you can do whether this bill passes or not. Remember, *"There is no way to text and drive safely. Powering down your cell phone when you are behind the wheel can save lives—maybe even your own."* U.S. Transportation Secretary

You can:

Turn off electronic devices and put them out of reach before starting your vehicle. Speak up when you are a passenger and the driver uses an electronic device. Always wear your seat belt. Urge your legislators to vote yes on this bill.

Parents can:

Set a good example for their teen driver. Be a good role model and talk with your young drivers about responsible driving.

Employers can:

Adopt and enforce company policies that ban employees from texting or talking on hand-held cell phones while in a company vehicle or in a personal vehicle while using a company-issued phone.



May "Trivial Pursuit"—Do you know your Memorial Day trivia?



Q: Memorial Day is May 27. Formerly known as Decoration Day, this important holiday honors our _____ soldiers.

Q: Memorial Day was first enacted to honor Union and Confederate soldiers after the _____ war. After World War _____ it was extended to honor all Americans soldiers that have died in all wars.

Q: On Memorial Day the proper way to fly our flag is to hoist it to the peak and then lower it to _____ until noon. The flag is then to be raised to _____ from noon until sunset.

Q: It is OK to display the flag after sunset as long as it is illuminated. True/False

Q: The _____ is the oldest and largest branch of the U.S. Military service, officially established by the Continental Congress on June 14, _____. This branch of the military is supported by two Reserve Forces, the _____ which is "owned" and managed by the federal government, and the _____ that is "owned" and managed by each state.

Q: There are 5 branches of the U.S. Military—The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and the _____.

Answers: Fallen, Civil, 1, half staff, full staff, full staff, true, Army, 1775, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Coast Guard

Our hard work, determination, and perseverance paid off for our client

A 49 year-old man with a history of significant neck and back injuries that had required surgery and pain management was on his way to his new job's orientation in Jacksonville when he was rear-ended on I-4 at a high speed. The accident derailed his life and caused him to suffer extreme aggravations to his prior injuries and made him unable to return to work.

When he hired us to help him out, **we painstakingly reconstructed his entire medical history going as far back as 2001.** As a result of us undertaking this tedious task, we were able to differentiate what conditions were old, what conditions were new, and what conditions were aggravations.

Our hard work, determination, and perseverance paid off for our client. We were able to settle his case against the at-fault party for the full policy limits and we are continuing to pursue a claim against his uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage.

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

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! (SEE PAGE 1 FOR MOTHER'S DAY HUMOR)

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Abbie's Darn Good Corn Casserole Recipe



Abbie Knight

"This casserole is a must at my family gatherings! Great for tailgating and covered dish dinners. Every time I take it to a function, everyone wants the recipe." *Abbie*

Born and raised in Vero Beach, Abbie Knight is our Office Manager and lead Legal Assistant and Case Manager in the DUI/Criminal Defense Department.

Abbie has been with Jeffrey for 26 years and is recognized throughout the legal community, including judges, as one of the most capable and experienced legal assistants in the Gainesville area.

Abbie's Darn Good Corn Casserole

1 can corn (undrained)
1 can creamed corn
1 stick of butter (melted)
1 cup sour cream (8 oz.)
1 box Jiffy Cornbread mix

Mix all 5 ingredients together.
Bake uncovered in a 9 x 13 lightly greased baking pan at 350 degrees for one hour (or a little longer if you would like a browner crust).

Serve.

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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