## MELDON LAW TALK

A Monthly Newsletter Publication from Meldon Law

#### **Attorneys**

Jeffrey L. Meldon Carey W. Meldon Dan Weisman

#### Wrongful Death



## Lawyer Jokes

- *This Lawyer is Thorough...* The attorney tells the accused, "I have some good news and some bad news."
- "What's the bad news?" asks the accused.
- "The bad news is, your blood is all over the crime scene, and the DNA tests prove you did it." states the attorney.

"What's the good news?" "Your cholesterol is 130."







#### **Personal Injury**

#### **Criminal Defense**

September

2016

# **Distracted Driving**

Many states across this country have already passed laws prohibiting texting while driving an automobile. However, mobile phones can now be used in other equally dangerous ways that can cause serious accidents that injure innocent people. Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Netflix, and email are just a few of the mobile apps that can distract motorists. While cars are being built sturdier and safer than in the past, motorists are also facing serious distractions from access to their smart phones. What would otherwise be considered innocent behavior such as facetiming your niece while driving to the dry cleaners can cause nightmarish consequences. Being mindful of your own

behavior and aware of your surroundings may be the best way to avoid car accidents. So next time you consider using your mobile phone to distract yourself on a mundane drive across town, think about all the other motorists on the road that may be doing the same thing and remain vigilant and aware of your surroundings. You may only have a second or two to avoid a serious collision that can change your life or that of others' lives.

If you or someone you know has been involved in an auto accident, contact our office at 352-373-8000 for your FREE consultation.



Carey Meldon



## Thank You For Your Endorsement: Michael Collins

I own M & M Carpet Cleaning, a full service carpet, tile and wood surface cleaning company located in Ocala, FL. I started M & M Carpet Cleaning in 2013 after Jeffrey Meldon secured a settlement for me when I was rear-ended by a careless driver. Jeffrey and his team are amazing! While dealing with Meldon Law I didn't feel like a client. I felt a part of their family, and that was so refreshing since many firms treat you like a number or a file or in some less personal manner. I refer everyone I know or whomever I come into contact with to Jeffrey Meldon. I refer these people and families because I believe in Jeffrey, his team, his ethics and his sense of commitment to his clients. M & M Cleaning can be reached at 352-484-0308 or visit their website: www.mandmcc.com.

# In The Community...Support American Legion Post 16!

American Legion Post 16 Located at 4701 NW 6th Street Gainesville, FL Phone: (352)-372-8802

Last month Dan Weisman from the firm had American Legion Post 16 commander Vickie Van Buren on Law sense, however, is the following: Post Talk Live, and they discussed everything the American 16 is within about \$25,000 of being Legion does. You can listen to the audio from the WSKY able to pay off their mortgage so they can own their post 97.3 FM broadcast by visiting our website at MeldonLaw.com.

The American Legion is a veterans' services organization dedicated to our service-members and their families. It has been around since just after World War I. American Legion Post 16 is the local Gainesville and Alachua and making a donation! Donations can also be sent to County post, and is named after a young Marine named Haisley Lynch (the last Alachua County resident killed in action during World War I). The American Legion (and Post 16 specifically) engages in a mind-boggling amount of outreach and good works around the local area and across the nation.



home free and clear. For an organization that makes its post home open for free to so many other veterans' groups from around this area, this would be hugely liberating.

Please consider visiting www.gofundme.com/post16 the post directly at 4701 NW 6th St., Gainesville, Florida, 32609. Thanks in advance to anybody who decides to donate, and thanks to everyone at the American Legion for all you do for our veterans and their families!

You can visit their webpage at <u>AmLegionPost16.org</u>.

# - Sunday, September 18th 2016 @ 1:30 PM

6th Annual Bowl 2 Build Bowl-a-thon

AMF Galaxy East Lanes 3225 SE Maricamp Rd. *Ocala*, *FL* 34471

RAISE DONATIONS & WIN PRIZES Enjoy a fun afternoon of bowling while supporting a GREAT cause through the Habitat for Humanity Organization!

For more info visit: www.habitatocala.org or call them at <u>352-351-4663</u>

- Friday, September 30 -

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Grassroots Motorsports \$2016 Challenge

Gainesville Raceway 1211 N County Road 225 Gainesville, FL 32609



Enjoy a fun-filled, all ages weekend at this FREE event. Competitors will be challenged to see who can build the best race car with a budget of \$2,016.

For more info visit: <u>http://grassrootsmotorsports.com/events/2429/</u> Or contact Rick Goolsby P: (386)-239-0523 | E: rick@grassrootsmotorsports.com

## Blueberry Cake Recipe Roberts' Family Household

## **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 & 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 & 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2-1 cup blueberries
- 1-2 tablespoons sanding sugar (optional)

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Generously grease a 9-inch round cake pan.
- 2. Whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside.
- 3. Using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the butter, sugar, and brown sugar until creamy. Add the egg and vanilla, mixing well.

- Add the flour mixture in 3 portions, alternating with the milk. 4. Mix just until combined.
- Transfer the batter to prepared pan. Scatter the blueberries 5. over the top of the batter and lightly press them into the batter. Sprinkle the top with sanding sugar.
- 6. Bake for 10 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 325°F. Bake for 50-60 minutes, or until the cake is golden brown and firm.
- 7. Cool in the pan for 15 minutes. Run a knife around the edges of the cake. Transfer the cake to wire rack to cool completely. (You'll need to flip the cake twice so it can cool right side up.)



## This month's topic of interest: September 2016

Each month our staff takes a number of calls from people within the North Central Florida Community. We use our clients' comments to come up with ideas for the topics of interest. Here's a topic worth discussing.

## **3** STEPS TO FOLLOW AFTER AN ACCIDENT

Getting into a car accident is one of the easiest ways for a good day to turn into a bad one. Not knowing what to do after the accident though can make it even worse. After the accident your adrenaline will be pumping, and you'll probably be at least slightly shaken-up. At this moment, however, it is important that you remain calm and remember to adequately fulfill your duties under the law. Failure to take these actions can result in fines and further traffic citations.

### Remember to take pictures immediately if you can do this safely.

## Step One: Safely stop your vehicle.

If you can move the vehicle, you should move it to a location that won't obstruct other motorists. This is usually accomplished by pulling off the road either onto the shoulder or otherwise out of the travel lanes. If your vehicle can't move on its own, you should call a tow truck. Also, if your vehicle is immobilized in the middle of the roadway, you should move yourself away from the vehicle to a safer location as secondary accidents often happen when other drivers come upon stopped vehicles and fail to stop in time.





#### Step Two: Getting medical assistance

If yourself, any of your passengers, or anyone in the other vehicle has been injured you must try to get medical assistance to the scene. If medical assistance is required, you must stay on the scene until help arrives.

#### Step Three: Exchanging information and filing reports.

If medical assistance is not needed or it has arrived, you must give your name, address, and registration number to anyone involved and must also display your license to anyone involved that requests to see it. If the accident has caused injury, death, or property damage over \$500 then law enforcement must be notified immediately. If law enforcement is not present at the scene, you are obligated to file a crash report with the Department of Motor Vehicles within ten days of the accident.

What if I hit a parked car or other property? If you are involved in an accident with a parked car or someone's property, your obligations are fairly similar. First, you must immediately stop your vehicle. Next, you must either locate the

owner or notify the owner by leaving a note in an obvious location that contains your name, address, and registration number. Finally, without unnecessary delay, you must notify law enforcement of the accident.

As mentioned earlier, failure to follow these instructions can result in the possibility of significant fines as well as other traffic sanctions. Make sure to fulfill your obligations and most importantly remember to be safe as secondary accidents pose a severe threat to motorists stopped on the roadway. If you are unfortunately involved in an accident, make sure you contact experienced accident attorneys like those at Meldon Law by calling 800-373-8000 or visiting MeldonLaw.com. If you would like a *Florida Accident Guide* for your glove compartment, just give us a call!



## 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 trophy.

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 annual 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**.

## How To Nominate a Scholar Athlete

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 E: BMcCalla@divcom.com P: (352) 416-0646



~ The Meldon Law Team



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### September 2016 Issue



# Bikes for Kids: July Winner

Nikaiya Pitt, 14, from Hawthorne is the July winner of Bikes for Kids! Nikaiya was nominated by her grandfather for her achievement in school and her responsible nature. She is involved in many different extra curricular activities and is already starting to plan for college. CONGRATULATIONS!

Schwinn Bike and Helmet were provided by: Gainesville Cycle Located in Gainesville, FL (919 West University Ave.)



FLORIDA

## This month's "Trivial Pursuit" >>>

## Questions:

- 1. What Beatles' song is 7 minutes 11 seconds long, and hit #1 on September 28th, 1968?
- 2. Which goddess did the Ancient Greeks honor in September?
- 3. What is September's gem stone?
- 4. What is September's flower?
- 5. What term refers to the full moon closest to the autumnal equinox?
- 6. Which President declared Labor Day to be a legal holiday in the USA?
- 7. During September 1996, what professional golfer made his final win as an amateur before turning pro?
- 8. In the Northern Hemisphere, autumn begins in September. When does it begin in the Southern Hemisphere?
- 9. True or False: John Keats wrote the poem "To Autumn" on September 19, 1819.
- 10. What band released the song "September" in 1978?

