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A SUCCESSFUL TRIAL



Pat Cummings and I tried a case at the Daley Center in Chicago for two weeks at the end of 2016 on behalf of a great client. Joann fought her way back from a tough crash back in February 2014 and had her day in court in November 2016. A lovely woman, mother, grandmother, and married for 60 years, the jury really loved her. Joann is a fighter and is grateful to have a wonderful family around her. We were able to recover seven times the amount the insurance company offered us before the trial. Thank you, Joann, for allowing us to represent you. It was an honor and a privilege. Thank you to our great trial team for your support, including Patty Kuehn. Thank you to the Healy Scanlon law firm for your support. Thank you to my wife, Michelle, for taking care of EVERYTHING when I had to be away, and for my kids for their constant prayers for us during trial. Thank you to our families for putting up with us when we were working nonstop to get this matter resolved successfully for our client. Thank you, my friends, for your encouragement and prayers during this trial. We are truly blessed to have the privilege of representing people who cannot represent themselves.

IT ALL STARTED IN A BOWLING ALLEY

Meeting My Wonderful Wife, Michelle

It's hard to believe how much little moments in life end up making a huge difference. I've been thinking about that recently because this month is 29 years since the first time I met my lovely wife, Michelle.

While I was attending Notre Dame Law School, I took part in a bowling night. Maybe one or two of us were skilled bowlers, but that was hardly the point.

Looking back, attending bowling night was one of the best things I ever did, though I had no idea at the time. I had the chance encounter with the woman who would become the love of my life. At the time, she was a first-year law student, while I was nearing graduation. This meeting happened in February of 1988.



Meeting Michelle changed the trajectory of my entire life. I grew up in Yakima, Washington, and attended college at University of Portland in Oregon. I had a job lined up in Portland upon graduation and fully expected to spend my entire career in the Pacific Northwest. But life surprises us sometimes, and we end up changing course. In 1990, two years after that night in the bowling alley, Michelle and I were married in Illinois. By 1992, we decided to live in the Chicago area and set down roots. We have made the Chicago area our permanent home ever since.

Nearly three decades and six kids later, I couldn't be more thankful for how everything has turned out. While we enjoy visiting family in the Pacific Northwest whenever we have the chance, the Chicago area has offered our children all sorts of cultural opportunities, great education, and the chance to take advantage of all the city has to offer. Working here has also given me the chance to represent all sorts of hardworking Midwestern people who I take pride in serving.

There is an old Yiddish proverb "Man plans, God laughs." As with my plans, God laughed, and I think he has kept laughing as I have made my way through this blessed life with Michelle, Emma, Clare, Kate, Will, Margaret Mary, Nora, and Johnny. This February, I count my many blessings for my ancestors, parents, siblings, in-laws, extended family, friends, employees, and clients who have journeyed with us these past 29 years. Thank you to all of you for accompanying us on this journey. As for me this February, I'm just glad I stumbled into a bowling alley 29 years ago and met the most important person in my life. Happy Valentine's Day, Michelle. I love you.

- Joe Shannon

The kitchen can be an organizational nightmare. People are in and out of it all day long. Items end up in different places every time someone empties the dishwasher. Sometimes it feels like you can find everything except the utensil you need. Sound familiar? If so, it's likely because your kitchen is filled with things you don't use often or don't use at all. Below are a few tips to declutter so this room will work better for everyone in your household.

First, clear counter space. Only your most essential kitchen items should be hogging this precious real estate. When you have space to work, you make much less of a mess. Open counters will also keep you from having to move items around constantly.

Next, eliminate or stow away rarely used/seasonal items. While that custom pineapple slicer might seem cool, how often are you really using it? Items like these should be stored somewhere with extra space; the kitchen is likely not that place. Take it out when you need it, and put it back when you are done.

Drawer dividers are great for keeping utensils separated by size or function. If something comes from a distinct place, it is easier to remember where it goes back after being washed. It also makes it much easier to find the

next time you need it. Dividers are especially useful for keeping sharp items from accidentally poking you.

As far as food goes, make sure you are labeling and dating things to avoid pileups in the pantry or fridge. If you can easily tell how long a food has been hanging out, you are much more likely to throw it out when it has reached its expiration date. I promise you, you'll never eat those 6-month-old crackers. They belong in the trash.

These few simple suggestions will have your kitchen running much smoother in no time. You will be shocked at how many things in your kitchen are just wasting space. Once you have pared down to the essentials, keeping the kitchen organized will be much less daunting.



CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

"There are no words to express our gratitude to Joe Shannon. The case he handled involved our children, so it was an extremely difficult time. Joe, being a parent, understood our emotional stress and did everything possible to reassure us. He spent countless hours working on our behalf and achieved an outcome we never thought possible. Without a doubt, Joe went above and beyond the call of duty. Simply put — Joe treated our family like his own. We sincerely hope we will never be in a similar situation, but we would highly recommend Joe Shannon to anyone who needs legal help. We will be forever grateful for his expertise, compassion, and understanding."

— Jim and Laura, Chicago, IL

"Joe Shannon quietly wins multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements in the Chicago area for his pool of diverse clients. He zealously represents his clients. There are other firms that are bigger, but none better. He specializes in going the extra mile, especially for wrongful death cases. He believes nothing is more important than life. I have referred several wrongful death cases passed over by larger firms that resulted in large awards through Joe Shannon's office. I highly recommend this firm."

— Joe Williams, Esq.

"Much to my very own surprise, after consulting with a 'top-rated' Naperville attorney who wasn't interested in anything less than 'two comma settlements,' I was referred to Joe Shannon by another local lawyer. No better reference than a colleague ... Joe is an energetic guy; takes on the unusual; and is a highly motivated negotiator. He's not just another stuffed suit, but rather a local family man, with transparency and values. Since my experience with Shannon Law Group, in a first-of-its-kind case, I've recommended Joe Shannon to at least two friends — both of which had a positive experience. I'm not the type of person to give out recommendations ... Shannon Law Group's a best choice — personal, friendly, and most of all, available and didn't forget me after the settlement."

— John, Naperville, IL



NOT YOUR AVERAGE CAR ACCIDENT

Battling Trucking Companies in Court

All of us know the dangers of being in an automobile accident. But it's even scarier when a crash involves a vehicle weighing up to 80,000 pounds, which is the case with accidents involving a large truck. When an 18-wheeler or other large truck collides with a passenger vehicle, the injuries can be one-sided and catastrophic. While truck drivers will often walk away unscathed, the people in the other vehicle are not usually so lucky. If you have been the victim of a trucking accident, you should be compensated for any pain and suffering caused by the other driver.

At Shannon Law Group, we specialize in dealing with accidents involving large trucks. Our attorneys will pursue the drivers and trucking companies responsible for your injuries. Trucking companies often have large insurance companies to battle on behalf of the driver, so you need an attorney who is willing to fight. The law in these cases can also be convoluted and difficult to parse, so our years of experience will help you get the result you deserve.

There are many reasons that a truck driver's negligence can be the cause of an accident. These factors include fatigue, driving under the influence, and negligent maintenance. Further, some truck

companies force drivers to overload their trucks or skirt safety regulations. If any of these is the case with an accident in your life, you should not be held responsible for any fallout.

If you end up in an accident involving a truck, the most important thing is to act quickly. Preserving evidence is crucial to getting you the maximum restitution. Document the accident site as well as the truck, so you have evidence when it comes time for court.

In the event of an avoidable tragedy, those responsible should be held accountable for their actions. Battling a large truck company may seem daunting, but with the experts at Shannon Law Group, you can get the result you deserve.



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SOLUTION

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5	8	6	9	3	1	7	2	
9	7	1	5	2	8	4	6	
3	4	6	7	8	9	5	1	2

We'd really love for you to "like" us on Facebook and leave us a review on Google or Avvo.com!

Share your experience and stay in the know with our current updates!



Be My Valentine Mocha Fudge

This Valentine's Day, give your sweetheart an extra-special gift — some tasty homemade fudge!

Ingredients

- 2 (14-ounce) cans sweetened condensed milk
- 1 ½ pounds (24 ounces) bittersweet chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 1 tablespoon instant espresso powder
- ½ teaspoon fine salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon flaky finishing salt

Directions

1. Line an 8-by-8-inch pan with parchment paper
2. Heat milk, chocolate, and espresso powder on the stovetop until chocolate is melted, then stir in vanilla.
3. Pour into pan and smooth top with a spatula. Sprinkle with salt.
4. Refrigerate until set, then cut.

Recipe courtesy of Chowhound.com.