

What's up at SKLF?

Eric and I have been very busy completing all of the planning that comes with a new year. So far we have met and set our quarterly goals and our budget for 2019. You would be surprised with the amount of planning that actually goes into running and growing a law firm. We have high goals for the amount of community service we want to accomplish in our spare time this year. The lawyers and staff have selected four different charities that we are going to support in 2019. We will detail this more in the coming months.

Eric and I also set goals for growth and education as lawyers, including the types of legal continuing education to complete. We also set goals for educational opportunities to make our staff the best educated and equipped in our area.

Visitors will notice that there is a new firm sharing space with us downstairs. Details are in this month's Community Spotlight article.

We are looking forward to serving you as we get into the rhythm of 2019. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions or have a friend or family member that needs legal assistance. Thank you for trusting us with your case!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Buffalo Chicken Dip



The Super Bowl is a great time for snack food. This Buffalo Chicken Dip is always a crowd pleaser.

Ingredients:

- 20 oz chicken (cooked/chopped)
- 16 oz cream cheese
- 1 cup Ranch dressing
- 1 cup Frank's RedHot Buffalo Wings Sauce
- 1 cup Colby-Jack cheese (shredded)

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Combine the chicken, cream cheese, Ranch dressing, and Frank's RedHot Buffalo Wing Sauce into a bowl. Stir and mix until well blended. Put the chicken mixture into a 9×9-inch pan and top with Colby-Jack cheese. Cook in the oven for 30 minutes or until the cheese starts to brown on the edges and the dip is bubbly. Eat with celery, crackers, or both!



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Stevenson Klotz Monthly Calendar—February of 2019

National Groundhog Job Shadow Day, Feb. 2. Be a beacon of inspiration to a student or young professional in your area by giving him or her an inside view of your profession.

Super Bowl, Feb. 3. One of the biggest annual sporting events in the USA, the Super Bowl, is the final championship game of the NFL.

Safer Internet Day, Feb. 5. Focusing on safe user experiences, especially where children are involved. "Together for a better internet" is the slogan of this year's campaign.

Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. A festival of romantic love. Many people give cards, letters, chocolates, flowers, or presents to their spouse or partner.

International Mother Language Day, Feb. 21. Promoting unity, cultural diversity, understanding, and high-quality education of linguistics throughout the world, this day also raises awareness to the thousands of languages on the verge of extinction and the impact on cultural identity when native languages are eradicated.

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Keep Going

If you're looking for inspiration that will keep you working on your fitness goals this year, remember the name Jeannie Rice.

She's an Ohio woman and an avid runner at the age of 70.

What Rice likes most about running is that it "is a sport that you can pause and resume at any point throughout your life, and it's not dependent on other people."

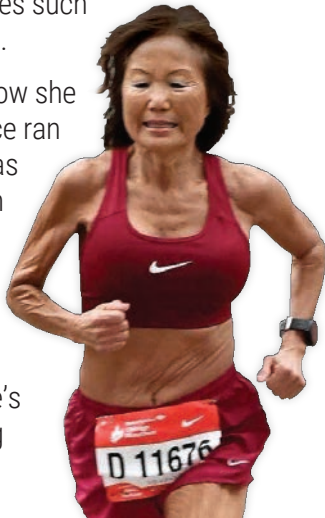
She started running several years ago to lose the weight she had gained during a trip abroad. She soon discovered that she enjoyed running and was pretty good at it, so she began training to compete in races. The following year, she ran a marathon and finished with a time of 3:45. She finished her second marathon in 3:16 and has run races worldwide since then.

She runs each morning at 5:30 a.m. with a group of younger

runners. She says training with them makes her a stronger, faster runner. She also runs shorter races such as 5Ks and 10Ks to work on her speed.

Her love of running and dedication to how she trains has paid off. In October 2018, Rice ran the Chicago marathon. By her tally it was the 116th time she'd participated in such an event. When she reached the finish line she'd set a new world record of 3:27:50 for her age group.

Jeannie Rice knows she may not be running at her current speeds when she's 80, but she will keep going for as long as she can.



Our areas of practice include:

- Personal Injury
- Consumer Protection
- Nursing Home Injury
- Premises Liability
- Criminal Defense
- DUI Defense

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We want you to think of us as your trusted legal advisors. If you, your family, or friends need legal advice, we want you to give us a call to help you. Even if it is a legal issue we do not handle, we will get you to someone who does.



Stevenson Klotz
is committed to our
local community!

Community Spotlight: DeMaria, de Kozan, & White

Each month, we like to feature people we work with, our neighbors, or people who are influential in our community. This month, we would like to feature our new office-mates: Kathy DeMaria, Belinda de Kozan, and Katie White.

Clients and friends who have come to see us recently will have noticed that there are new lawyers in some of our extra space downstairs. Kathy DeMaria is still in the building, but she has joined forces with Belinda de Kozan and Katie White. Together, they will be DeMaria, de Kozan, & White.

Their firm will focus on Will, Trusts, and Probates. Additionally, they will focus on Civil Litigation and Mediation.

Though Kathy, Belinda and Katie are a separate law firm from Stevenson Klotz, we know and respect all three attorneys very much and know it will be a pleasure to work in the same building with them.

If you have the need for any of the services provided in their focus areas, please let us know and we will be happy to introduce you to these dedicated and wonderful lawyers.

Remember Security in the Parking Lot



It's easy to overlook the parking lot—you only see it on your way in or out. Yet it's a key spot for safeguarding your employees against injuries and theft. Remind employees to keep up their car insurance and to take the following safety precautions when using the lot:

- **Be aware.** Learn to notice whether the lighting and the gate are working, and whether there are any individuals hanging out near the lot who appear to be "casing" cars. Report any problems to the lot attendant or security personnel.
- **Remove temptation.** Remember to lock your doors and close your windows, and don't leave any valuable items visible on the seats, such as cellphones, laptops, or expensive clothing. Take these items along or store them in the trunk.
- **Don't advertise.** Placing alarm decals on a car window may simply help thieves see what device they must evade. Ask your insurance company about using decals.
- **Identify the car.** Etch your car's Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the windshield and the engine block. If the car is stolen, it will be easier to identify.

Thanks for the Referrals!

A special thank you to the following friends who referred clients to us the last month. A referral is the best compliment you could ever pay us!

- Ronald Aliberti
- Larry Ivey
- Gladys Heard
- David Bisceglia

Practice Area: Personal Injury

Why is the insurance company saying my injuries were caused by something that happened years ago?

It is no surprise to those of us who regularly deal with insurance companies that they try to escape responsibility. They are in the business of making a profit, and if they paid every single claim for the exact amount requested, they would not be able to make a profit or produce the ads that make people laugh on TV.

Unfortunately, if you are injured and cannot work or have your medical bills paid, the games insurance companies play are no laughing matter.

One of the tactics that insurance companies use to try to save money is to say that a person's injuries are not caused by the accident. Insurance companies will dig through decades of medical records to see if a person has had a similar injury in the past so that they can blame an injury on something in the past rather than their insured's negligence. It is not unusual for a person to have seen a chiropractor for a minor back injury 10 years before, with no problems since then, get into a serious car wreck with severe back pain, and then have an insurance company claim that back surgery is not related to the accident.

While insurance companies want you to believe they are on your side or your good neighbor, always remember that they are in business to make a profit. Many times, they will bend over backwards to try to escape responsibility. We have seen them try to blame clients in a front car for a rear end accident at the stoplight! They can be creative in finding ways to say that an injury is not their fault.

One of the ways they do so is to say that even if their client caused the accident, the injuries suffered are not related. Do not be surprised if you are in a car wreck and an insurance company tries this tactic.

This is one of the many reasons that you should consider hiring an experienced personal injury lawyer to help you with insurance claims.

Eric's Corner

Happy Mardi Gras! While Pensacola's celebration is not as big as New Orleans or Mobile, the season is enjoyed here just the same. We have already feasted on a number of king cakes and have been to a couple of balls. It is a fun time of year.

Cole and I have been able to get up to Repton, Alabama to do some hunting the past couple of months. Now that he is a freshman, I treasure more and more of the limited time he and I will have together before he's out of the house. I'm glad he still enjoys spending time with his parents. Days in the woods with him are great days.

Lucy Adams is playing basketball for the first time in many years. To quote Shakespeare, "though she but little, she is fierce." She is a competitor and hustles hard. It is fun to watch her play and the effect she has had on her team coming in mid-season after having a broken arm. She hangs with the best of them despite having her dad's height!

Baseball season is starting soon, so we have both kids up at the batting cages getting ready for tryouts. Spring time will be here before we know it. Cole is hoping to make his high school



baseball team, and Lucy Adams is starting her first year in the majors division at Bill Bond league.

Going back to Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of Lent. Lent, in the Christian church, is a time of reflection and a time when many people give up things or take on disciplines. Most of the time, I find myself simply restarting my New Year's resolutions.

This year, starting New Years, I have started going to the gym and working out with weights again. I have also started a regular practice of doing cardio at least six times a week, either running or on a treadmill. My hope is that by the time Lent comes around, I have stuck with my New Year's resolutions and I have to find some more areas to improve.

Did you make New Year's resolutions? Are you sticking with them? It is never too late to make a change for the better!

The Shortest Month of the Year

Have you ever wondered why there are only 28 days in February? The answer dates back to ancient Rome.

It is believed that Numa Pompilius, who reigned around 700 BC, wanted to more accurately sync the 10-month Roman calendar with the annual lunar cycles. He added the months of January and February to fall between the months that ran from March through December.

The addition of these two months became a bit of a problem, because Romans were very superstitious. Even numbers were considered unlucky, and the lunar year was 354 days.

In order to keep the days of the year at an odd number,

the king made the new calendar 355 days. January was given 29 days and February 28 to achieve this number.

Because February was now the unlucky month of the year, it was observed as a time when the Romans performed rites of purification and honored their dead.

Hundreds of years later Julius Caesar would make more changes to the Roman calendar. Around 45 BC, Caesar added 10 additional days to the calendar so that it more closely resembled the solar-based Egyptian calendar.

At that time, an extra day that would occur every four years was added to the month of February, giving us the leap year.

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Book!

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