

What's up at SKLF?

February seems to go quickly. Maybe it is because of the fewer days or because the rush of the new year is still in full swing.

We have had a busy month. We had an all-day hearing in our jail explosion cases in which the judge approved the settlement as final. Finally, after five years, this case may be coming to a close. We have had the pleasure of representing almost 140 people who were injured in the jail explosion back in 2014. We have attended a week-long mediation and more settlement conferences than one could count, but ultimately crafted a solution with all of the various defendants and other parties to come up with the best solution possible. It has been a long journey, but we are glad to be done.

Eric and Lauren went to New Orleans for the trial lawyer's college jury selection seminar. Jury selection is one of the most important parts of a trial and the least understood by many. Any chance we can get to focus in on our skills for jury selection makes for better results for our clients. We are excited that the trial lawyer's college, which is based out of Wyoming, put on the seminar this close to home.

Chris did not make that seminar because he was in Fort Lauderdale working on our new motorcycle accident practice area. Our firm is going to focus on not just car accident cases, but also motorcycle cases. Due to limited visibility and careless drivers on the road, motorcycle accidents are different from other accidents. Injuries are usually higher and the accidents are easily preventable if the other drivers pay better attention.

We are excited about reaching out to another group of folks who can use our help.

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!

- Brenda Smith
- Larry Ivey
- Stacie Smith

Our areas of practice include:

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

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Pork Chili



Ingredients:

- 4 lbs pork butt (trim fat and cut into 2-inch cubes)
- 1 1/2 lbs tomatillos (roasted, peeled and chopped)
- 2 Anaheim or Poblano chilis (cut into 1-inch cubes)
- 2-3 jalapeños (seeds removed and chopped fine)
- 1 bunch cilantro leaves (cleaned and chopped)
- 2 green bell peppers (cut into 1-inch cubes)
- 3 garlic cloves (peeled and minced)
- 1 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp dried oregano
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- Flour for dredging
- 3 yellow onions
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 tsp salt

Directions:

Season the pork meat generously with salt and pepper, lightly flour. Heat the vegetable oil in a heavy-bottomed skillet over medium-high heat. Brown the pork chunks well in small batches and on all sides. Lift the pork out of the pan and place in a wide soup pot. Discard the fat and place the onions and peppers in the same skillet and sweat over moderate heat, stirring occasionally for 5 minutes until limp. Add all of the chilis and cook an additional 3-4 minutes, then add the garlic and cook an additional 1-2 minutes.

Add the sautéed vegetables, chopped tomatillos, dried herbs and cilantro to the pork. Add in the chicken stock and bring to a boil then reduce to a slight simmer. Cook for 2-3 hours uncovered or until the pork is fork tender.

Adjust the seasoning to taste with salt and pepper.



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Stevenson Klotz Monthly Calendar—March of 2019

Plan a Solo Vacation Day, March 1. Stop daydreaming about it and start making arrangements. There's no time like the present to plan a fun getaway and give yourself something exciting to anticipate later in the year.

Simplify Your Life Day, March 3. Professional organizer Carmen Coker believes you should do three things today and once a month to decrease clutter, combat chaos, and bring a little more structure to your life, living spaces, etc. Visit SimplifyYourLifeDay.com to learn more.

Descendants Day, March 9. Interview your elders. Take a trip down memory lane by looking through family photo albums and scrapbooks. Embark on a journey of discovery into your family tree.

National Crayon Day, March 31. Embrace your inner child. Draw outside the lines. Wear down the points on those crayons as you create a masterpiece with such colors as red, violet, cerulean, yellow-green, green-yellow and carnation pink—but first, take a moment to remember fondly all of the colors that have been retired.

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(850) 203-3072



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.

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Stevenson Klotz
is committed to our
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Chris's Corner

This year, my eldest son, Max, is a freshman in high school, and Sam has started middle school. It is incredible how fast the time is flying by.

Eric and I were talking about the fact that in just 3 years our oldest children will be off to college and out of the house. In 5 years, since our kids are all the same age, we will be "empty nesters". This may be the first time this has really hit home.

Max is one of four freshmen who made the varsity lacrosse team. There will be lots of travel for him playing with the Dolphins this year. Sam is about to have his first tryouts and solo in his band class. He is playing the tenor sax and we are actually starting to recognize music he is playing at home, and his tone is improving.

Sam is going to play rec league baseball this spring which is new for him. All in all, life is racing along so fast. Be sure to make the most of every day that you have with your loved ones and family. They will all grow up before you know it.

We're Still Looking at Our Phones on the Road!

We all know the dangers of texting while driving—or do we? A survey of drivers in Philadelphia, as reported on the Fox 8 website, found that 75% admit to using mobile devices behind the wheel.

They're not all kids, either. Although 91% of Millennials reported using a smartphone or other device while driving, so did 79% of Gen-Xers and 64% of Baby Boomers.

What are they doing? Reading text messages or emails (48%), updating or checking social media (23%), and recording videos (18%). Only 9% of drivers in the survey said they use a "do not disturb" app on their phones while driving.



Free Book!

Just call our office at **(850) 203-3072** to get your free copy of "Your Step-by-Step Guide to Car Accidents" or go to **StevensonKlotz.com** to download your free copy today!

Practice Area

Florida has a high very high population of motorcycle riders. Our weather along the Gulf Coast makes it comfortable to ride almost year-round in comfort.

You may have noticed on our Stevenson Klotz Facebook page that we are now producing a newsletter dedicated just to motorcycle safety and education. If you would like to receive the motorcycle newsletter, just call us and ask to receive a copy.

The newsletter will be a monthly mailing that has safety information and interesting articles dedicated to motorcycle lovers.

With so many motorcycles on the road, we, unfortunately, see all kinds of incidents and accidents. We would like to raise safety awareness for motorcycle riders and also for drivers of automobiles who share the road with bikes.

Everyone can do a better job of being aware of what is around us as we drive. Most accidents are caused because drivers are not paying close enough attention to the roads and vehicles around them.

If you or a loved one has a case that might be related to a motorcycle issue or accident, we would love to be of assistance. Motorcycle insurance questions can be tricky since it is often not the rider's primary vehicle insurance. Don't hesitate to give us a call to schedule an appointment whenever you have questions.

The Vanishing Cookies

Two boys walk into a bakery on a dare. They have no money in their pockets but are determined to score a few treats. When the baker isn't looking, the first boy, Tyler, swipes three cookies from a tray on the counter and sticks them in his jacket pocket. "Guess I won this challenge," he says to his friend Chuck.

"Watch and learn," Chuck replies as he walks to the counter and rings the bell.

"What can I get for you?" the baker asks.

"Just your undivided attention," Chuck answers. "Gather around folks. I am the Amazing Chuck, and I know magic." A small crowd assembles around Chuck and Tyler. Chuck turns to the baker and says, "If you would be so kind as to give me a cookie, I will show you all a trick."

The curious baker obliges and hands Chuck a cookie from the tray on the counter. Chuck takes the cookie, looks it over, and then stuffs it in his mouth. When he is finished, he says, "That was pretty tasty. Might I have another?"

The baker is becoming skeptical and says, "This isn't much of a trick as far as I can tell." He hands Chuck another cookie and watches as Chuck gobbles it down, as he did with the first one.

While smacking his lips, Chuck says, "Trust me, this is going to be the most amazing magic trick you ever witnessed. I know you have your doubts, but please, sir, I just need one more cookie for this trick to work."

"This better be a heck of a good trick," the baker says as he hands a third cookie to Chuck.

Just as before, Chuck devours the cookie. He then pats his belly and rubs his hands together. He rolls up his shirtsleeves and shows his palms to the baker and says, "Abracadabra!"

"I don't see anything," the baker says.

Chuck points to Tyler and says, "Let's check his pocket."



A Cool Drink of Water

Two friends set out for a difficult hike on a hot, sunny day. After many hours of hiking, they reached a clearing and decided to take a break to have a snack and hydrate. One hiker had packed a frozen bottle of water. Over the course of their trek, all but one chunk of the ice had melted, and the climber was able to enjoy a cool drink of water under the hot sun.

The second hiker had brought along a couple of plastic bottles of water purchased at the store. From being out in the day's heat, the water was much warmer than what the hiker wanted to drink. "May I have some of your ice?" she asked her friend.

"Certainly," her friend replied, but was unsuccessful in her attempts to break the piece of ice into smaller chunks. She finally turned to her friend and said, "Pour your water into this bottle over the ice. That should cool it off."

The friend did just that and was able to enjoy a refreshing drink. She began to think about what had just happened and realized that what she'd just experienced could also apply to life: **Sometimes you have to let the time pass and bring about a thaw that makes it possible for you to enjoy things. Other times you need to let things cool off before they are of use to anyone. Then there are times when you might need to break things apart, and if you're successful in doing that, let's hope there's enough left to go around.**

Risk Factors While Driving

Staying safe on the road means being aware of the risks. According to the Knowledge at Work website, these factors can increase the chance of an accident while driving:

- Driving while fatigued or sleep-deprived—six hours of sleep or less triples your risk.
- Driving long distances without taking sufficient breaks for rest.
- Driving through the night, during a mid-afternoon energy dip, or when you would normally be asleep.
- Driving under the influence of sedating medications like antidepressants, cold tablets, antihistamines, and the like.
- Working more than 60 hours a week. This can raise your risk by 40 percent.
- Drinking alcohol, even in small amounts.
- Driving alone.
- Driving along a long, dark, or boring road.