



The Group with the Scoop

Wrongful Death | Car Accidents | Defective Products

KEEP YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT after auto crash

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Cases of interest

If you suffer injuries as a result of a car accident, healthcare providers will play a key role by helping you try to achieve a quick full recovery and establish recoverable damages.

However, your health and recovery has got to be priority number one. Do not manage your recovery with an eye toward a potential future financial settlement.

Base your decision on selection of healthcare providers and how often you need to see them on medical condition only. Arranging more visits than necessary will not bolster a settlement down the road.

Be up front on everything with your doctor. He/she needs an accurate health history from you. Prior accidents and serious injuries need to be disclosed. Withholding this information will hamper your doctor's ability to make a sound diagnosis and solid recommendations. Rest assured the insurance company already has this information.

Don't distort the facts of your case. Don't tell your doctor your car was totaled, for effect, when in reality it had a mere scratch on the

Concentrate on Recovery



bumper. Your doctor doesn't need surprises on the witness stand. And it puts your credibility in doubt—never a good thing.

Don't exaggerate your symptoms either. Make sure your doctor fully understands your current symptoms, but don't embellish. Not only will that impede your treatment, it also stands to embarrass you if you are caught on videotape doing a bunch of things that may contradict with what you told your doctor.

Make sure to follow through on your doctor's recommendations. Keep all your appointments and take all your medications. Follow your doctor's orders! A full recovery should be your first and foremost concern, not a future financial settlement. ■



Fighting like a Tiger for you!

citizen spotlight

JOHN EKLUND –
CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Age? 39

Wife, Children & Grandchildren?

Wife: Jennene- Married 15 years;
Children: 4 daughters- Daisy, 14, Lily,
12, Violet, 10, and Rose 6

What is your professional title? 1)

Connect Pastor at Horizons Church

2) Northeast Regional Director and National Encourage Coach, Celebrate Recovery, Saddleback Church Lake Forest, CA

What is the most difficult part of being a pastor? Prioritizing family as the most important ministry. Though I believe I am called to serve my church and my community, I have to constantly remind myself that my first “calling” is to my wife and 4 daughters.

What do you feel is the greatest risk facing our communities today?

Apathy. The greatest risk to any community is not the problems themselves. Problems, many times, are opportunities to bring the community together. The greatest tragedy is when the community is in crisis, and folks turn a blind eye. Edmund Burke wrote, “*All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.*”

What technique do you use most often to motivate an individual to change?

Enter the life changing program, Celebrate Recovery.

What is the best piece of advice you were given, and who gave it to you?

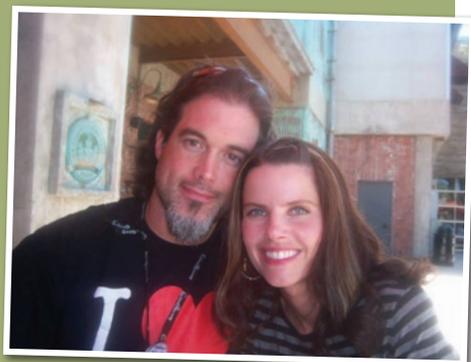
My first sponsor in recovery introduced 5 words to me that helped change my life, and still ground me today... He told me, “John, just “DO THE NEXT RIGHT THING.”

What advice would you offer individuals who have attempted recovery and suffered relapse?

In Celebrate Recovery, we continually encouraging each other to “keep coming back.” We are going to fail. Like C.S. Lewis said, “*Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement.*” Whatever you do, don’t give up before the miracle happens, don’t disconnect from God and others, and just keep coming back!

What is the funniest moment you’ve encountered as a pastor? I remember volunteering for a youth retreat, and falling asleep on the bus ride home. Never, never fall asleep on a bus full of teenagers! They gave me a full makeover including toe and fingernail polish!

When people look back at your life, how do you want to be remembered? I guess I would hope the seeds I have planted would keep growing. ■



Connect Pastor, Horizons Church

MLG Cases of Interest

PREGNANT PASSENGER SUFFERS MULTIPLE FRACTURES

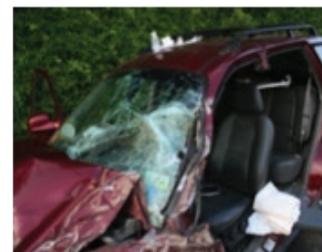
Our client was riding with her mother in Upshur County, when a vehicle coming in the opposite direction crossed the center line and crashed into them head on. Our client was initially knocked unconscious and broke her nose and her eye socket. Our client was pregnant at the time and was therefore limited in what medications she could take. She also had to wait until her child was born to discuss the surgical options with her doctors.

CAREGIVER SUBJECTED TO DOG BITE

Our client was viciously attacked without warning by a Boxer-St. Bernard mix while walking from her car to the home of her elderly patient. She suffered a severe bite injury to her thigh requiring surgery. Our investigation revealed that the animal was allowed by its owners to roam the neighborhood despite the fact it had attacked and seriously injured another person just months before the attack on our client.

DUI DRIVER’S PATH OF DESTRUCTION

A drunk driver, more than four times the legal limit, left a path of destruction after he struck four



cars and then overturned his vehicle in the roadway. Among the contents thrown from his truck in the crash was a mostly-consumed bottle of vodka. Our clients, an elderly couple, were unfortunately in his path of destruction. One suffered a broken neck and the other suffered injuries so severe that he was in a care facility for over a year. ■

getting the job done for West Virginia.

Now that the 2014 West Virginia Legislative session has ended, I wanted to bring your attention to several bills that passed and became law that will benefit the State of West Virginia and the families living here.

A Safer West Virginia

- First, the legislature passed a bill protecting the water in this state from potential future contamination. As you may recall, in early January, an above-ground storage tank leaked a chemical into the Elk River near Charleston and contaminated the water supply of that city. In response to that event, we passed legislation that requires inspections of these tanks so we can prevent any further leaks and contamination of our water supply. This new law also protects the water supply for the entire state by putting in place source water protection plans and for the entire estate.
- During the course of the water crises, we learned that many businesses were forced to close because they were not permitted to serve water to the general public. In response to that, the Small Business Emergency Act was passed into law. The purpose of this law is for the state of WV to provide very low interest rates to small businesses who are forced to close during a declared state of emergency to help that business make up for lost revenue during the time period for which it is closed as a result of a state of emergency being declared by the governor.

Protecting Our Children

- We passed a law that creates a new felony offense for a parent, guardian or custodian to grossly abuse or neglect a child which creates a substantial risk of bodily injury. We believed that we needed to appropriately punish those adults who put our children in harm's way.
- We also passed a law that increased the penalties for child pornography. To knowingly send, cause to be sent, distribute, exhibit, display, transport, possess, or accessing with attempt to view any file containing more than 500 images of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct is a felony punishable by a sentence of 18 months to 5 years and a fine of up to \$10,000.00.

Building a Brighter Future in West Virginia

- In order to provide a future for our kids and grandkids, we passed a bill creating the WV Future Fund. The purpose of this fund is to set money aside from the severance taxes collected from our coal and gas industries so that the money can be used for the benefit of future generations. Some believe that we should spend all of our money now on our citizens and not put money away for the future, however, most have recognized that saving money for the future which will benefit our children and grandchildren is a responsible step to take for any government. I hope the WV Future Fund grows to a significant amount of money so that the income generated by it can be used toward infrastructure, education, and economic development.
- Another bill that became law was an increase in the state's minimum wage by \$1.50. Effective January 1, 2015, the minimum wage in the State of West Virginia will be increased from \$7.25/hr. to \$8.00/hr. and effective January 1, 2016, the minimum wage will be increased another \$0.75 to \$8.75/hr. This change in the minimum wage law will impact over 100,000 working West Virginian's who haven't had a pay raise in a very long time. While some believe that only teenagers hold minimum wage jobs, there are many senior citizens in WV who work for minimum wage to supplement other forms of income they may already be receiving, such as retirement income or Social Security income.
- During the legislative session, we passed the Tourism Development Act which provides incentives for businesses to expand, or to begin a new business, in order to attract tourists from other states to travel and visit West Virginia. This new law will grow jobs in WV while also attracting people to enjoy the beauty of our state and the many activities to be found in WV.

There were many other bills passed by your legislature during this past session and these were just some that stood out that I believe will greatly affect West Virginia's families and businesses. Families can't survive without businesses and jobs, and businesses can't survive without families as customers and employees. Together, West Virginia's businesses and families will continue to grow and create an environment in which families can see their kids and grandkids prosper without having to leave the state. If you would like more information please email me at tim.miley@wvhouse.gov or call 304.340.3210. ■



Fighting like a Tiger for you!

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keep priorities straight

AFTER AUTO CRASH



SEE PAGE ONE

Give this Newsletter to a friend. They will thank you for it, and so will I.

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Re-Elect **TIM MILEY**

HOUSE OF DELEGATES ★ DEMOCRAT ★

Fighting Hard for West Virginians

Paid for by Miley for WV, Treasurer V.J. Baldini.

LAMAR

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