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At Fleschner, Stark, Tanoos & Newlin, we offer the convenience of a local lawyer with the experience, resources, and reputation of a large national law firm. For more than 40 years, we've helped people just like you get through some of the toughest times of their lives.

Whether our attorneys are helping people across the United States get their <u>Social</u> <u>Security Disability (SSD) benefits</u>, or we're protecting the rights of Indiana and Illinois <u>motor vehicle accident</u> victims here at home, we pride ourselves on being a trusted law firm <u>our clients</u> can depend on. From using every resource available to build strong cases, to encouraging open communication with our clients, we want to be more than just your law firm—we want to help you move forward with your life.

Clients' 1st in the Community



We had a wonderful time at our annual Fourth of July Cookout at the law firm. It is a great way for our employees to get to know each other and relax a little at work. Several of our employee's family members also got to come this year and we had a great turnout! We hope you enjoy seeing some of our employees, since you speak with them all the time.

Did You Celebrate My Birthday?



Everyone Else Did!

One of my most vivid memories as a young boy is my first visit to beautiful Deming Park in my hometown of Terre Haute, IN. It was a bright, warm, sunny day. I could not have been more than 5 or 6 years old. My dad was driving our car, my mother was in the front passenger seat, and my brother, Larry, and I were in the back seat. We were going to our church's Fourth of July picnic and celebration. I remember turning into the park and seeing ponds with ducks, rolling hills, and tons of children running, playing, and having a great time.

I remember when we arrived at one of the largest outdoor shelters in the park, I could not believe all the people from our church who were there. I remember my mom turning around, looking at me, and smiling as she said, "Steve, there sure are a lot of people here to celebrate your birthday." I was born on the Fourth of July. I was so naive for a little while. I believed everyone was actually there to celebrate my birthday. It was a wonderful day — eating, playing with my cousins at the playground, and watching the older kids playing baseball. Also, after some patriotic and church songs, they actually sang "Happy Birthday" to me. There was even cake and ice cream. I thought I was one of the luckiest boys in the world. I am sure I did not totally understand the significance of Independence Day, but I remember I thought it must be something really special to be an American. Everyone was happy and so friendly to each other.

Unfortunately, in 2021, sometimes we aren't as happy and friendly to others as we should be. Our country seems divided. Our leaders (from both parties) lambast their opposition, call each other names, and act as though they hate each other. Each side treats the other side as if it is "un-American."

I don't have the solution. I wish I did. However, I do wish our leaders would abide by two simple rules my grandmothers taught me (and my brother and cousins) over 50 years ago. I doubt if either of my grandmas graduated from high school, but they were wise in many ways. I remember my maternal grandma told me (more than once), "Steve if you can't say something nice about someone, don't say anything at all." The advice I remember most from my paternal grandma was visual. She would certainly let you know how she felt, but it was always with a smile, even if she disagreed with you. She did not have a mean-spirited bone in her body. It is my hope that our leaders (on both sides of the aisle) will become a little more like my grandmothers.

I hope you had a great Fourth of July. I am still very proud to be an American, and I am sure you are too.



Fun in the Sun – Ways to Stay Cool and Protect Yourself & Loved Ones



Summertime brings sunshine, and while the warm weather sure beats winter blizzards, the bright sun can also pose a hazard to your health. Sun safety isn't merely a seasonal concern. But since most of us tend to spend more time in sunlight during the summer months, let's look at a few important safety tips we should all be practicing.

Top Sun-Safety Tips (click link)

It's fun to spend time with the family playing beneath the warm summer sun, but skin damage, heatstroke, and skin cancer are all real threats we need to be aware of. Fortunately, protecting yourself doesn't mean shunning the sun. The Environmental Working Group has some quick tips to help you enjoy the sunshine safely.

How To Apply Sunscreen (click link)

The American Academy of Dermatology reports wearing sunscreen can help prevent sunburn, slow premature aging, and reduce your risk of skin cancer. This is great news, especially since sunscreen is relatively easy to find at almost any store. Unfortunately, most of us aren't using enough sunscreen for it to be effective. A dab on your nose won't cut it. Learn the best way to apply sunscreen before your next trip to the beach.

Sun-Safety Tips For Pets (click link)

It's not just people who need to be careful in the sun. Summertime can also be hazardous for pets. We all know how dangerous it is to leave an animal in a car during the summer, but sun safety goes beyond rolling the windows down. Did you know you can get sunblock for your dog? This product is definitely handy if you're bringing Fido to the beach. These sun-safety tips can help you make sure everyone in your family has a good summer.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to our July Employee of the Month Melissa Turner!!!



Melissa has been with our law firm for 13 years and is in the Post Hearing/Closed Claims Department. She manages claims that have been to a hearing and are awaiting a decision and answering questions for closed claims about their award payments. She also helps manage claims at the Appeals Council level. Her favorite thing about her job is helping people and congratulating clients on their Fully Favorable decisions and Notice of Awards.

People who nominated Melissa said this "She has taken on so much work and does it with a smile (and never complains). She has helped the Intake department and taken on several new cases recently."

Here is some fun questions Melissa answered:

- 1. If you could pick a superpower, what would you choose? Invisibility....so I could spy on people...hehe
- 2. What technology or invention would you love to see in your lifetime? Increased technology in assistive walking devices.
- 3. What's the strangest talent you have? I can name most 90s/early 2000s country/pop songs by the first few notes on the radio.
- 4. Do you have any strange phobias? Bare feet freak me out.
- 5. If given a chance, who would you like to be for a day? Joey McIntyre's wife6. If you were stuck on an island what three things would you bring? My phone,
- Chick-fil-A, Diet Dr Pepper, Reese Cups
 7. Do you have a favorite quote? "Believe in yourself, Dream, Try, Do Good." Mr. Feenev-Boy Meets World
- 8. What tv show/movie are you ashamed to admit you love? Camp Nowhere...l've also seen every episode of every 90s sitcom at least once (recently).... Maybe I should get out more.
- 9. Imagine you could step in a teleport for a day and go to any place and time in history. Where and when would you travel to? Los Angeles, California-1990s

Recipe of the Month Stephanie's Peanut Butter Cookies



Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup Reese's Pieces or similar candy

Directions - *Makes about 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

- 1. Heat oven to 375 F.
- 2. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, peanut butter, egg, and vanilla in a large bowl until fluffy. Stir together flour, baking soda, and salt; gradually add to butter mixture, beating until well-blended. Stir in candies. Drop by heaping teaspoons onto ungreased cookie sheet.
- 3. Bake 10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned; remove from oven. Cool slightly; remove from pan and place on wire rack. Cool completely.

Check Out Our Website!

Click on the following link to easily access the Fleschner, Stark, Tanoos & Newlin website. We have a lot of important information on our website, including active Mass Tort Claims we are handling, updates at our law firm, blogs, Attorney bios, and much more. The main page is also where you will find a link (green box) in the top left corner to quickly and easily access your FSTN Client Portal. Have you joined the Portal yet? Ask your Case Manager how you can join today!

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Real Client Reviews

"Everyone in the office I dealt with was very personable and down to earth. They never acted like they were better than me and that I truly appreciate." *—Phillip C. - Facebook*

"This law firm really knows its stuff. From start to finish, from filing appeals to getting the hearing done, and adjusted everything through COVID 19. And they put my issues first. The communication between the law firm and myself was excellent; I couldn't have asked for a better firm to represent me. Thank you, it was a win-win for all." *–Fulton B. - Google*



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