

The **BOYK** BULLETIN

CHARLES E. BOYK
LAW OFFICES, LLC

11 Offices >>> NW Ohio & SE Michigan

Applications For The 2023 Boyk Law Veterans Scholarship Are Due By November 1st

Charles E. Boyk Law Offices are committed to supporting our service members, veterans, and their families. We will award \$2,000 to help continue the education of a student currently attending an accredited college or university, who has either served in the Armed Forces or is the child of a Veteran of the United States Armed Forces.

USMC veteran, Brendan Bushbaker was selected as the 2022 Boyk Law Veteran Scholarship winner! He served four years as a radio operator stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. During his time in the Corps, Brendan developed a way to remotely control radios from a safe distance without fear of having the transmitting location identified and fired on by the enemy. Brendan's innovative new method is still

utilized by the Marines and earned him the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his advancement in radio warfare.

In 2020, Brendan was honorably discharged, and he enrolled at Michigan State University to study Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics. When he was notified of winning the Boyk Law Veterans Scholarship, Brendan said, "I am eternally grateful for the support that Charles Boyk Law Offices have graciously awarded me. These funds will help me complete my education and further launch me into my selected career path. I think it is safe to say that the Law Offices of Charles E. Boyk have the backs of Veterans. With this scholarship, I am one step closer to achieving my dream of earning a degree in Computer Science. From the bottom of my heart, thank you all."

"We hope this scholarship brings hope to those struggling to pay for their education and encourages students to continue pursuing their educational goals," says Chuck Boyk. "Thank you to all those who serve and continue to serve our country."

Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA and have completed at least one semester of classes at an accredited college or university. More information on application requirements is available on our website, www.charlesboyk-law.com/2023-boyk-law-veteran-scholarship/

The 2023 Boyk Law Veteran Scholarship winner will be selected on Veteran's Day.



USMC veteran, Brendan Bushbaker

Charles Boyk Law is honored to offer this scholarship to the individuals and families who have given so much to our country. The Boyk Law Veteran Scholarship was created in 2015 to help those who have served in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, or Reserves and their children or stepchildren.

CONTACT US TODAY!

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AUTO ACCIDENTS • MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
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Charles Boyk Law Sponsors 419 Music Festival

Charles Boyk Law sponsored the 419 Music Festival on Saturday, September 16th at the Fire Station Grill on Holland-Sylvania and Airport Highway.



The event featured live music from local bands with proceeds benefitting the Hero Program for Springfield Township Local 3544 and Sylvania Township Local 2243 firefighters.

The Hero Program helps local firefighters reduce the number of non-emergency calls to 911. The firefighters reach out to individuals and households to identify issues and improve conditions that can reduce their likelihood of calling 911 for help in non-emergency situations. Numerous non-emergency calls to 911 are dangerous because they could prevent or delay fire and EMS resources from responding to actual emergencies.

Boyk Law's Sarah Sharpe and Becky Casteels Staff represented the firm at the event.



The Hero Program helps firefighters with outreach, and education efforts and allows them to make minor household improvements to prevent those calls from happening, such as installing safety devices like fire extinguishers, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, or grab handles to prevent falls.

3M: A \$6 Billion Settlement Agreement May End Largest Mass Tort in History

On August 29, 2023, a landmark \$6.01 billion settlement with 3M Company and its subsidiary Aearo Technologies, was reached on behalf of over 200,000 current and former servicemembers who suffered hearing damage while using 3M's Combat Arms Earplugs version 2.



3M knowingly designed, manufactured, and profited from selling these defective military earplugs to the United States Military from 1999 to 2015. The Department of Justice had previously pursued and resolved claims against 3M for violating the False Claims Act by selling these defective earplugs to the Department of Defense.

The settlement comes after 4 years of civil litigation against 3M, where it has lost 10 of the 16 cases and where plaintiffs have been awarded more than \$250 million.

The structure and administration of the settlement is complex and does contain a provision that would permit 3M to back out if more than 2% of the claimants opt out of participation – something that is not expected but will also not be known until the early part of 2024.

This resolution represents a tremendous victory for the thousands of brave men and women who served our country. Our firm is proud to be representing hundreds of veterans in this litigation. While our firm is not taking on new cases or referrals for this litigation, we are thankful to the dozens of firms who entrusted us to represent their clients in this case.

Keeping Your Pets Safe Is A Year-Round Battle



Dr. Caroline Stark, DVM

As the warm days of summer fade into cool fall weather, veterinarian Dr. Caroline Stark says it is important to continue treating

your pets for fleas, ticks, and other parasites that are thriving during milder winters.

“The frustrating part is we aren’t getting rid of them anymore,” said Dr Stark. “Maintaining preventative treatments on all pets in the household is the only way to be sure.”

Ticks are most active in fall and spring – but they have adapted to milder winters and hotter summers and are thriving. Tick bites can cause skin irritation and infection. Some species of tick can also transmit Lyme

disease. Fleas also carry diseases, and their bites can cause skin irritation and allergic reactions in pets and humans. Mosquito bites can lead to heartworms in dogs and cats. One unseasonably warm day, mosquitoes can become active again and infect your pet.

Mice and other small critters are also trying to get into warm homes when the temperature drops, and they can bring fleas and ticks inside with them and re-expose your untreated pets.

Dr. Stark always recommends some kind of year-round protection for every pet in the household. One infected animal can spread parasites to others. “There is no treatment for heartworm in cats, which is fatal, so prevention is key,” she says. “If your pet has been off heartworm meds for a while it should be tested and then on a yearly basis.”

There are various types of preventative measures, including collars, topical, and pet

specific oral medications. Unfortunately, the treatment options can be expensive, as manufacturer’s prices have gone up 30 - 50%. There are treatment products at various price points, and she recommends talking with your veterinarian about treatment options.

Dr. Stark suggests buying the preventative treatments in bundles and looking for rebates to save money but recommends buying only from reputable sources. She cautions that medications listed for sale on Facebook or social media could be counterfeits and harmful to your pets.

“It is very unfortunate that the cost of wellness care for animals has skyrocketed recently. That is something that you should definitely consider before adding a pet to your family.”

Dr. Caroline Stark, DVM is a Staff Veterinarian at VCA Holly Farms in Toledo, Ohio. She specializes in preventive medicine and soft tissue surgery.

Major Settlement Reached in Private School Bus Company Sex Abuse Case

Our firm reached a significant, confidential pre-suit settlement with one of the largest private school transportation companies in the country, following a sexual assault by one of its drivers against a student in a New York school district.

The driver, who was convicted and sentenced to prison, spent months grooming the middle-school student. He was able to obtain the student's cell phone number under the guise of needing to contact her if the bus was running late. He began texting with her, discussing things of sexualized nature and then changed his route so she was the last one off the bus. Having isolated her, he raped her.

Sexual assault is a particularly difficult form of trauma, with potential long-term, even lifelong, implications. In this case, the student contracted a sexually transmitted disease, developed PTSD, acute depression, anxiety, and eating disorders, and turned to self-mutilation with constant thoughts of suicide.

While no amount of money can right the wrongs inflicted upon her, this life-changing settlement can help provide financial security, and a peace of mind that she has the resources to continue with the professional treatment she needs to heal.

Our firm is committed to providing representation to victims and survivors of sexual assault and abuse. We have a dedicated team of attorneys and staff to expertly handle cases on behalf of those who were victimized.



Navy Veteran with Mesothelioma Dies After Painful Battle

When our client John joined the U.S. Navy in 1966, at the age of 18 years old, he did so to serve and protect his country – knowing the risks the Vietnam War brought. Tragically, John suffered a painful death. Not as a casualty of war, but some 50 years later as a victim of service-connected mesothelioma.

Tragically, thousands of brave servicemembers, who risked their lives to defend our freedom, die each year from asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma – a deadly form of cancer almost exclusively caused by asbestos exposure.

Mesothelioma disproportionately affects service members. Those who worked on U.S. Navy vessels built prior to 1980, are most at risk. The U.S. Military embraced asbestos as a useful fireproofing material on naval ships between the 1930s and 1970s and exposed countless servicemembers to its deadly properties.

The diseases have a long latency period and some people do not become symptomatic for 30-50 years after the initial exposure. As a result, many veterans who served our country are still being diagnosed today.

While the Feres Doctrine bars suits against the military, veterans still can pursue VA claims, or file suit/make claims against companies that supplied asbestos to the military.

We represent victims like John, and his family, in the asbestos cases and have seen firsthand the devastation that these diseases can cause.

CASES OF INTEREST: OCTOBER 2023

Negligent Forklift Driver Runs Into Scissor Lift

Our client was hoisted up in a scissor lift when another employee ran a forklift into the scissor lift. Our client was thrown 20 feet to the ground and suffered significant injuries. Following the incident, the employer attempted to dispose of evidence of the incident. Our client was taken to the hospital and diagnosed with a brain bruise and concussion. To help him recover he is undergoing ocular therapy, speech therapy, and cognitive therapy. Our office is pursuing a workers' compensation claim and separate negligence claim against the employer.

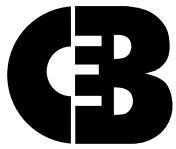
Slip & Fall Down the Stairs Due To Spilled Ice

Our client was employed at a local bar and grill. As he was walking down the stairs, he slipped on spilled ice and was sent flying into the wall. He was rushed to the hospital and had emergency surgery for a broken tibia, fibula, and knee cap. Following his hospital stay he was sent to an in-patient rehab facility where he recovered from his first surgery. Weeks later he then required a second surgery. He is now non-weight bearing and faces a long road to recovery. Our office is assisting him with his workers' compensation claim.

Ziplining Leads To Significant Injuries

Our client was at a friend's house when he was encouraged to zipline over the friend's pond. As our client zipped over the pond at a significant speed, he smashed into a pole and fell into the pond. Our client had to be pulled out of the water and EMS was called. Our client was rushed to the hospital where he was found to have broken his tibia and fibula and required a four-day hospital stay. Our office is pursuing a liability claim against the home owners' insurance company.





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Boyk Law on Parade at 50th Annual Roche de Boeuf Festival

A delegation from Charles Boyk Law Offices drove a Jeep in the Roche de Boeuf Festival Parade in Waterville. The group of Boyk Law staff from our Holland Office tossed candy along the parade route and then also hosted a booth at the festival where they met with visitors and gave away Boyk swag. The Waterville, Ohio festival featured live music, craft vendors, food trucks, and lots of fun.



October's Raving Fan of the Month

“We couldn’t have asked for a better office to handle my father’s motorcycle accident. We are so pleased with Mike and Katie. Thank you both so much for your help. Highly recommend.”

– Rochelle B.

Have a positive review to share? Go to boykreviews.com to tell us about your experience!

New Employee Profile: MIRANDA PRICE

Miranda Price recently joined the staff of Charles Boyk Law’s Holland Office as a paralegal.

She graduated from the paralegal program at the University of Cincinnati. Miranda previously worked for another firm that specializes in bankruptcy law cases, but she was interested in litigation and accepted a position in August with Charles Boyk Law Offices. She is currently helping our attorneys with multiple cases, helping out where needed.

Miranda has a background in graphic design and attended the Savannah College of Art and Design before deciding to pursue a career as a paralegal. She hopes to one day go on to law school.

She loves the presence of dogs in our office. She has a rescue dog of her own at home. The black and brown terrier mix was transferred from an out-of-state facility to a local shelter. The dog was injured in an



accident and lost a leg, but Miranda adopted him. They named him ‘Iggy’ after St. Ignatius, whose own leg was injured in battle. She plans to bring her pup into the office with her very soon.

Miranda married her high school sweetheart, and they have a 2-year-old son. She also has two sisters including a fraternal twin.

Miranda grew up in Sylvania and graduated from St. Ursula Academy where she played goalie on her lacrosse team. Today she coaches Girls Lacrosse at Sylvania Northview High School.

Please join us in welcoming Miranda Price to the Charles Boyk Law team.

New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know!

Call (419) 241-1395 or e-mail marketing@charlesboyk-law.com