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A NEWSLETTER FROM **BRYANT LAW CENTER P.S.C.**

JANUARY ISSUE LEARN MORE ONLINE AT WWW.BRYANTPSC.COM

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A Message from Firm Founder Mark Bryant

Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2021. Goodbye and good riddance to 2020! What a year we all had last year. So much sadness and strain on mental health. physical wellbeing, and the general condition of the human race. For us at the BLC, we have learned how to work from home for some nine months and counting. Though we met every day on Zoom, it is not the same as daily meetings in person at our headquarters. I have missed all the camaraderie that goes with the proximity to others whom we have worked with for many years and some for decades. Despite the slowdown in cases that we work to help people who need it, the personal injury department

and mass torts department haven't skipped a beat. The pandemic sure hasn't slowed anyone down in speed or improved driving skills! People injured by no fault of their own continue to need our services. Our caseload continues to grow. We continue to meet with clients, new and old, on Zoom calls, telephone calls, and now that cold weather has moved in, we meet in the Bryant Law Center Annex – socially distanced and masked.

We do not know what 2021 holds for any of us, but we are starting to see light at the end of the tunnel with the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines arriving. This is exciting news for all of us and we at the Bryant Law Center are

gearing up to help as many people as we possibly can in 2021. If you have a legal issue and don't know who to turn to, please call us. If we don't handle your type case we will send you to someone good who does. Please know how much we appreciate your friendship and know that referrals of your friends and family to our law firm is the greatest compliment you can give us and we sincerely appreciate them. Give us a call anytime at (270) 448-4847 or email lawteam@bryantpsc.com.

Sincerely, Mark P. Bryant President, Bryant Law Center



he Bryant Law Center welcomes Jared Holt as our newest attorney in the Paducah office. Jared is an honors graduate of Paducah Tilghman High School who is also an Honors graduate

Staff Spotlight New Firm Attorney Jared Holt

of the University of Kentucky and was awarded the esteemed Singletary Scholarship given to very few academically high ranking students at UK.

Jared has been working for Bryant Law even before he began attending the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2017. He graduated from the Rosenberg College of Law at UK in May, 2020 and passed the Kentucky Bar Examination in October 2020.

Jared is a prodigious reader, writer and researcher and we are so happy he chose to come to work with us.



Welcome to our New Marketing Director Karie Thornton

Karie Thornton is the newest member of the Bryant Law Center team in Paducah and Louisville. Our law firm has been in the vanguard of marketing since 1997 but it has become time to hire our own in-house marketer. Karie has years of experience with WPSD as a video journalist and Media Account Executive, with the West Kentucky Star, and as Digital Sales Director for Bristol Broadcasting Company.

She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Murray State University in electronic media. I am so excited that Karie Thornton will be working on our marketing.

Karie will be a superb addition to the Bryant Law Center team!

Bryant Law Center: PUTTING CLIENTS first

Please know how much we appreciate your friendship and know that referrals of your friends and family to our law firm is the greatest compliment you can give us and we sincerely appreciate them.

Call: (270) 448-4847 | Email: lawteam@bryantpsc.com





Bryant Law Center is Donating \$5000 to Paducah Community Kitchen to Benefit the Homeless and Needy

Community Involvement Paducah Community Kitchen

From Mark Bryant:

Paducah is home. I am a fourth generation Paducahan. Our children are fifth generation. My wife is a Paducah girl. We were born here, raised here, and educated here. Paducah has been so good to me, my family and to my law firm. To say thanks for all you have done for us, we are making various donations to help our community, a way of giving back. Today, because of so much poverty and homelessness in Paducah, we are donating \$5000 to the Paducah Community Kitchen which has gone from feeding 300 people per day to feeding more than 1000

people per day. They will put it to good use feeding the more than 10,000 people in our community who don't know where their next meal is coming from, which number includes more than 2400 children and helping the homeless in this, what the census has designated as 6th ranked for homelessness in Kentucky. In addition, our law firm has contributed \$1230 to the Salvation Army which includes \$615 of employee donations, \$2000 of a \$10,000 pledge for rebuilding the Paducah Tilghman High School football field, a small part of which will honor my brother in law, Clyde Trevathan, a Kentucky AllState end on the 1964 award winning team, and \$3000 to the McCracken County Board of Education for the benefit of teachers who will use the money to buy supplies and help students the teachers would normally pay to help from their own pocket.

We at the Bryant Law Center do our part to help those in need during this difficult time in everyone's life. **Please donate to the <u>Paducah</u> <u>Community Kitchen</u>.**

Our neighbors are suffering more than at any time since the Great Depression. Let us all step up and help.



Manage Your Money After an Injury Settlement

All of the following steps can help you formulate a plan to protect and manage your personal injury settlement.

Assess your monthly expenses and create a budget.

You may never have created a budget before your injury and settlement. You may think a budget is the last thing you need (after all, you have money now). Though it may seem counterintuitive, you probably need a budget now more than ever. If you don't establish a baseline of your income and expenses, it will be far too easy to lose track of the money that is coming in and going out. The act of creating a budget will help you develop discipline in spending.

In addition, by distinguishing "needs" from "wants," creating a budget gives you a clearer picture of how much is "left over" to meet your larger, long-term goals.

Review your insurance coverage.

Review everything from your life and health insurance to your car insurance. How does your change in circumstances impact your insurance needs? Do you need more insurance? Less insurance? What new assets, if any, do you need to protect?

Legal Updates

- The Bryant Law Center expanded our practice areas starting January 1 to begin offering small business and personal bankruptcy services. For more information and to speak with an attorney to answer and discuss bankruptcy options or to schedule an initial appointment, contact us at (270) 448-4847.
- 2. We are still reviewing cases and accepting clients in our ongoing investigation into panoramic sunroof leaks and resulting interior and electrical damage in certain Volkswagen Golf Sportwagens, Alltracks, Jettas, Tiguans and Atlas SUVs. Litigation has been filed in multiple states.
- 3. Our cases filed on behalf of clients who developed certain internal cancers after consuming prescription Zantac are proceeding through litigation and we are still accepting new clients.

Review your will and other "estate planning" documents.

Do you need to update or revise your will or any related trust documents? If you don't have will, now might be an appropriate time to make one and to think about other "estate planning" matters.

Get professional advice.

You can take all of the steps listed above on your own, but if you never have dealt with these types of issues, you may want to consult with one or more experts, including:

- An insurance specialist.
- An estate planning attorney.
- A tax professional (e.g., a CPA or tax attorney).

Even though your personal injury settlement is not taxable as income, any income you earn from investing your settlement money likely would be taxable. To say that the tax code is convoluted and confusing is an understatement. The wisest course of action is to assume that some portion of your settlement will be subject to taxes at some point, and talk to a professional to avoid any unpleasant surprises.



A financial advisor.

A financial advisor is a professional who understands how money works and can help you make informed financial decisions. A good financial advisor will assess your present situation and offer options to help you maximize the value of your personal injury settlement. One word of caution: all financial advisors are not created equal. Some are highly-educated, well-trained and independent; others are glorified salespersons, pushing the products of a particular investment company. Do your research before you choose a financial advisor.

Illustrations by Designs.ai

Legal Updates

- 4. We are still taking clients in our cases involving retail sales of mislabeled tractor hydraulic fluids sold with a "303" label. The fluid can cause damage to agricultural equipment and sales have been banned in Missouri.
- We are still accepting qualified clients in our 3M defective earplug cases.
 If you were a member of the military, were issued 3M earplugs and suffered tinnitus or other hearing loss, we are still evaluating cases.
- 6. We have represented multiple clients who were victims of sexual harassment and sexual abuse to hold abusers accountable. If you have been abused or harassed at your workplace or religious, medical, civic, governmental or educational environments, or by a relative, contact us for a free confidential evaluation of your case.







Showing Appreciation for Our Community's Funeral Homes

Emily Roark, partner of the Bryant Law Center, and Mark Bryant went to every funeral home in Paducah, Kentucky and delivered fresh donuts to their staff. Our local newspaper, The Paducah Sun, has a daily list of obituaries and it continues to grow from COVID-19 deaths. The funeral homes are bearing the brunt of these with large numbers of new deaths and interments. They were all so happy someone was thinking of them. We thanked each of them for their service to the community.



Bryant Law Center's Christmas Gift Card Giveaway

Congratulations to the five winners of the Bryant Law Center's Christmas Gift Card Giveaway!

Each winner received a \$100 gift card to a local Paducah store or restaurant.



Quick Tips from Attorney Teris Swanson

Do you have an upcoming virtual hearing or court appearance? It's important to be prepared. Get quick tips from attorney Teris Swanson to help set up your computer and environment.

Watch the video here: <u>Tips for Virtual Court Appearances from Attorney Teris</u> <u>Swanson</u>

Kentucky Super Lawyer Rising Star: David Bryant

Congratulations to David Bryant for being selected to the Kentucky Super Lawyer Rising Star list for the 7th year in a row! Only lawyers in the Top 5% of the state are selected to the Super Lawyers list.





Bryant Law Center's

2021 Educating Kentucky Scholarship Contest

Bryant Law Center is honored to offer you the opportunity to win a college scholarship to help further your education. We believe firmly in the benefits of education in creating a better future for our great commonwealth of Kentucky and across the country. We are awarding two \$1000 scholarships.

The first \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Kentucky senior planning to attend a two or fouryear Kentucky college or university in Fall 2021.

The second \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to a college student enrolled in and continuing in a Kentucky college or university in Fall 2021.

The contest started January 1, and ends March 31. Winners will be announced May 1. Please visit our scholarship page <u>https://www.bryantpsc.com/scholarships</u> for scholarship guidelines and to apply.

