HANKEY LAW OFFICE P.C. perience. Compassion. Justice.

Charles Hankey Reflects on 40 Years of Service

Earlier this year, Mr. Hankey was selected for a spotlight in PILMMA's (Personal Injury Lawyer Marketing and Management Association) Insiders Journal.

A lifelong Hoosier, Charles attended college and law school in Indiana. Practicing law since 1973, he had dreams of being a small-town lawyer in the big city of Indianapolis. Growing up in a rural community, he passed the local courthouse walking to and from school each day. He watched the lawyers come and go, wearing their nice suits and he thought to himself, "I want to do that." And so he did. Charles began working as a sole practitioner in his one-room apartment where the ping-pong table served double duty as the conference table. – Nikki Richards, Executive Director of PILMMA

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Mr. Hankey spoke with Ms. Richards about his experience as an Indiana attorney and owner of the Hankey Law Firm.

As 2016 is winding down, it's important to look back and reflect on what we're most thankful for – You.

Below is an excerpt from the interview Mr. Hankey gave to PILMMA about how he continues to strive to go above and beyond to reach out to current and potential clients of the Hankey Law Office.

"I opened the Hankey Law Office around 1986 with two employees and myself. I started representing social security clients at the firm next door to where my office is today. As a courthouse lawyer who was practicing social security and personal injury, we relied heavily on word-of-mouth. We treated our clients very well and we knew they would refer us to their family and friends. That's just common courtesy and being a good person and a good lawyer. The clients return the kindness with referrals."

Thank you to the friends and clients of the Hankey Law Office for 40 wonderful and successful years. We look forward to continuing to serve you for many years to come.

We 🂛 Referrals

We would love to assist all those we can, so please don't hesitate to send friends and



family our way for help with:

- Social Security Disability
- Supplemental Security Income
- Personal Injury
- Long Term Disability
- Workers' Compensation
- Employment Law

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Falls on Snow and Ice Colder Months Bring More Hazardous Surfaces



By Megan Cain

Slipping and falling is one of the most common causes of accidents in the world, resulting in thousands of injuries every year, many of them extremely serious. This is especially true in the colder months with slick roads and walkways.

Unfortunately, it is often difficult to prove liability in these cases, since hazardous surfaces are often a part of everyday living.

- The owner (or an employee/agent) must be responsible for the hazardous surface. While slick surfaces can occur outside from snow and ice, the moisture can also be tracked inside. It is up to companies to salt their walkways outside and keep proper signage inside about potential hazards.
- 2. The owner (or employees) must have known a hazardous surface existed but did nothing about it. If the hazardous walkways were not tended to within a reasonable amount of time, despite noticing the issue, the company could be held liable.

However, the key to this criterion is "within reason." If a company has taken

all precautions and a customer still falls on their premises, they would likely not be liable.

3. The owner (or employees) should have known about the hazardous surface. Not knowing about a hazardous surface does not provide complete immunity to liability. If a "reasonable person" would have discovered the hazardous surface within the usual course of doing business, they could be held liable.

If you or someone you know has been injured during a slip and fall accident on someone else's property, call the Hankey Law Office at 317-634-8565.





Remember that any changes in medical treatment or contact information is imperative and, often, time sensitive to your claim.

Be sure to call us. We're here to help!

We will update our files and also notify Social Security on your behalf.

PATHWAY TO RECOVERY MASQUERADE BALL

Committed to Our Community



The Hankey Law Office was honored to be a gold sponsor for the 2016 Pathway to Recovery's annual Masquerade ball on October 8th in Indianapolis.

The sponsorship will help Pathway To Recovery provide housing and support services to homeless men and women who are overcoming addiction and mental illness on their way to becoming clean, sober and stable members of the community.

The Hankey Law Office has provided sponsorship to this event for the last two years. This year's event raised nearly \$100,000.



Social Security Tip From the Desk of Carolyn Eck Does My Doctor Have to Fill Out Paperwork for My Case?

Aside from submitting medical records upon request, your doctor is not legally obligated to complete any individual paperwork for your disability case. However, many doctors will help. If your doctor supports your claim for disability, please contact your case administrator (CA) at our office and they will send out a Residual Functional Capacity (RFC) assessment on your behalf. An RFC requires the doctor to give information about your diagnoses, functioning level, limitations, and prognosis. There are many types of RFCs. For example, if your disability case is based on heart problems, we can send out a cardiac RFC to your respective doctor. We can do the same for mental health issues, chronic back pain, migraines, etc. Having a RFC greatly increases the chance of success at the hearing level. Contact your CA today with questions.

Mental Health: It's Okay to Get Help

New Report Ranks Indiana's Mental Health Near Worst



Mental Health America recently released their State of Mental Health report, analyzing how well each state provides its citizens with access to mental health care.

Like the rest of the country, Indiana has room to improve. The report ranked Indiana at 47th out of 50 states for a high prevalence of mental illness and limited access to care. It found that there is just one mental health worker for every 710 people in the Hoosier State. We clearly need to do better.

Mental illness is something that should be taken seriously. 43.7 million Americans (about 18.29% of us) struggle with some form of diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder. Yet 59% of those did not receive treatment for the illness.

Additionally, 8.9% of adults in Indiana also report having a substance use or alcohol abuse

problem.

If you feel that you are experiencing signs of mental illness, including depression, please consult a doctor right away.

If you think you have an addiction issue, the Indiana Addiction Hotline is available 24/7 to help you find addiction treatment services in Indiana. Call 1-800-662-HELP. "As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same."

- Donald E. Westlake

Happy Holidays Word Search

Take time out this holiday for our Happy Holidays Word Search. Words can go up, down, forward, backwards and diagonally. Good luck!

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Ingredients:

- 8 slices center cut bacon, chopped
- 8 ounces softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 rounded teaspoons prepared Dijon style mustard
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Swiss cheese, available on dairy aisle
- 3 scallions, chopped
- 1/2 cup smoked almonds, coarsely chopped
- Baby carrots and a selection of spiced flat breads like pumpernickel or rye, or sliced whole grain baguettes, for dipping

Directions:

X

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Brown bacon in nonstick skillet over medium high heat. Drain crisp bacon bits on paper towels.

In a mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, mayonnaise, Dijon, Swiss and scallions with cooked bacon. Transfer to a shallow small casserole or baking dish and bake until golden and bubbly at edges, 15 to 18 minutes. Top with chopped smoked almonds. Place dip on a platter and surround warm casserole with breads and carrots for dipping.

Variation: Swiss and Bacon Dip with Horseradish - Stir in 2 rounded teaspoons prepared horseradish when combining cheese and bacon.

Recipe courtesy of Rachael Ray, Food Network

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IN SUITE

Connect With Us Online

and our services on our website at can find out more about the team watch our videos on YouTube. You our tweets, meet us on Google+, and You can like us on Facebook, follow with the Hankey Law Office online. It's easy for you to stay connected

hankeylaw.com.

The contents of this newsletter do not constitute legal advice. Every case is different and must be judged on its own merits. Past results afford no guarantee of future results.

Prior to joining the Hankey Law Office, Julianne worked for an optometry office as a technician, in special

Employee Spotlight: Julianne

Sondra L. Burger

James M. DuBach

Ashley D. Marks

Kirsten E. Wold

Charles D. Hankey

Stacy J. Crider

Megan E. Cain **Editor: Shannon Eck**

Melissa A. Davidson

Charles D. Hankey Law Office P.C.

Say hi to Julianne, a case administrator for the Hankey Law Office. She went to high school in Beech Grove and attended Kaplan College afterwards for dental assisting.

education for Beech Grove Schools, and coached cheerleading.

active.

She loves spending time with her family and staying

- Bicycle Accidents

- Highway Defects

- - Construction Accidents

 - Burn Injuries
 - Drowning

professionals of the Charles D. Hankey Law Office can resolve cases involving: Premises Liability

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 - Child Injuries



