





March 2014



Teamwork at Lane & Lane Yields Maximum Recovery for Our Clients

Welcome to this month's edition of the Lane & Lane newsletter. We're excited to tell you a little about what's been keeping us so busy here over the course of the last month.

Today's Food for Thought: "For every minute you are angry, you lose 60 seconds of happiness." --Ralph Waldo Emerson

Teamwork Pays Off at Lane & Lane

At Lane & Lane, there are two attorneys assigned to most cases. The team of attorneys assigned to the case work together and share full responsibility of handling all aspects of the case from start to finish. We strongly believe in the notion that "two heads are better than one." With more manpower, knowledge and wisdom, our clients' cases receive the time and attention to detail they deserve, which allows for the best results possible, i.e. the maximum recovery for our clients each and every time.

Two of the cases Scott Lane and Ray Steadmon resolved last month demonstrate this point. On February 20, 2014, during jury selection, and after the court ruled in our favor on over 50 motions which addressed what evidence the defense could use to attack our client's case, Scott and Ray obtained a settlement of \$240,000. The case involved a two-car collision which resulted in fractures of our client's face but, thankfully, no permanent injuries other than very

minor scarring. The highest offer during the 5 years of litigation prior to trial was \$100,000. Through their team effort, Scott and Ray were able to obtain a settlement that was more than double the defendant's offer prior to trial. A few days later, on February 24, 2014, Scott and Ray received an arbitration award in a case involving our client who sustained injuries as a result of being run off the road by an uninsured motorist. We brought an uninsured motorist claim against our client's insurance company. Following a hearing, the arbitrator (a former judge) awarded our client \$224,000. Prior to the hearing, the insurance company's highest offer was \$70,000. In this case, again through their team effort, Scott and Ray were able to recover more than 3 times the insurance company's highest offer. At Lane & Lane, we truly believe that our team approach works. To see more Lane and Lane results, continue to our website.

Featured Items

Congratulations to Our Rising Star, Lucas Peters!

We are proud to announce that one of our law clerks, Lucas Peters, won a student trial competition this month. Lucas is in his second year at IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law. His team competed against 16 other teams from the Midwest in The AAJ Student Trial Advocacy Competition (STAC) Regional held here in Chicago. His team will now go on to compete in the Nationals, which will take place in Santa Monica, CA in April. His coach was very impressed with Lucas's performance, stating, "Lucas was awesome! It's a shame they don't award a "Best Advocate" for the tourney, because I'm certain Lucas would have won it!"

GM Recall Comes Nearly a Decade Late After Causing 13 Deaths

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is now investigating General Motors after the manufacturer recently issued an ignition switch recall. The problem with this recall is that it comes nearly a decade after the motor vehicle company first learned of the problem. Since that time, more than a dozen people have been tragically killed and nearly three dozen accidents have occurred due to the faulty switch.

Questions also surround the federal agency, as safety advocates wonder why it took the NHTSA so long to look into these crashes and deaths. All indications show that the agency knew of the problems in 2005, yet failed to investigate GM's safety recall practices then.

Was your car involved? If you own a GM-made vehicle, there is a good chance your car could be affected. You can learn more about this recall situation, as well as find a list of recalled GM vehicles, by checking out this recent news story on our website. Read more about GM Recall Comes Nearly a Decade Late After Causing 13 Deaths.

Lane & Lane Client Awarded Between \$1.6 Million and \$2.1 Million in Chicago Archdiocese Sexual Abuse Scandal

In mid-March 2014, Mark A. Brown reached a settlement with the Chicago Archdiocese on behalf of a sexual abuse victim of former Priest Daniel McCormack. The settlement is valued between \$1.6 million and \$2.1 million dollars. During his time as a teacher at Our Lady of the Westside School, McCormack victimized our client--along with numerous other boys--between 2000 and 2006. With this settlement, our client will be able to finally begin the journey toward healing and stability that he's struggled to find over the last 10+ years. To learn more about this Chicago Archdiocese Sexual Abuse settlement, check out the Case Results section on our website. Read more about Lane & Lane Client Awarded Between \$1.6 Million and \$2.1 Million in Chicago Archdiocese Sexual Abuse Scandal.

Thank You!

We hope that you've enjoyed the March edition of the Lane & Lane newsletter, and that you've found the contents to be interesting, helpful, and informative. As always, we'd love to hear from you. If you have any suggestions for content you'd like to see in one of our upcoming newsletters, please fill out the contact information on our website or send us an email.

Check out our free <u>Auto-Accident App</u> for your smart phone. This simple app can provide you with a simple guide to help you gather and organize crucial information after an auto accident. You will also receive free Live Operator assistance to help you notify emergency personnel and identify your location if you are in an accident.

Meet Our Team of Attorneys



Fred Lane

Fred Lane is an author, editor, and senior partner at Lane & Lane who has been practicing law since 1950--not to mention the father of founding and managing partners Scott and Stephen.



Stephen Lane

For the past 35 years, Stephen has poured his efforts into helping the victims of catastrophic personal injuries. During his time as an attorney, he has also taught law and authored Illinois state legislation.



Scott Lane

Aside from being a founding partner, Scott often lectures and has numerous publications pertaining to various aspects of trial technique. Scott is the co-director of the prestigious Illinois State Bar Association Trial Technique Institute.



Mark Brown

With two decades of legal experience, Mark Brown assists clients with personal injury claims, medical malpractice cases, product liability lawsuits, and sexual abuse cases. In 2013, Mark won a Client Distinction Award from lawyers.com.



Raymond Steadmon

Ray joined Lane & Lane in 2009. He serves as the Chair of the Young Lawyer's Section of the International Society of Primerus Law Firms and has been named to both the 2013 and 2014 Illinois Super Lawyer Rising Star lists.

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