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FINNEY INJURY LAW
- TRIAL LAWYERS -

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DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Election day is **Nov. 3, 2020**. It might feel far away right now, but the day will be here before you know it, and it's so important for every single person to exercise their right to vote for the leaders of our country.

Voting processes have looked a little different this year in light of COVID-19 and mandates for following proper health and safety guidelines, but there are still options for making sure your votes are counted.

In Missouri, for all 2020 elections, any registered Missouri voter can apply for a mail-in ballot and vote by mail. Generally, Missouri mail-in ballot voters are required to submit a notarized statement with their ballot, but in certain instances, including for voters who have contracted or are at-risk of contracting COVID-19, a voter may cast a mail-in ballot without notarization.

If you will be voting in person at your local polling place, please review the CDC's recommendations for protecting yourself and your family by visiting [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

For general voting information, visit [Vote.org](https://www.vote.org). For Missouri voting information, including registering to vote, finding



your polling place, signing up for vote by mail, and receiving election reminders, visit [Vote.org/state/missouri](https://www.vote.org/state/missouri).

To learn more about all the candidates and measures on the ballot this year, visit [ISideWith.com](https://www.isidewith.com).

Take all the right steps now so you're ready to vote come Nov. 3!

TRIALS & THEIR TALES

- NEWSLETTER -

1600 S. BRENTWOOD BLVD., SUITE 220 • ST. LOUIS, MO 63144 // FINNEYINJURYLAW.COM // 314-293-4222 // OCTOBER 2020

A POSITIVE NEWS UPDATE – SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO AREA STUDENTS

Hello all – some of you will recall that our office, Finney Injury Law, put out the word a month or so ago that we would be offering a scholarship for \$2,500 to a deserving student who wished to be in the legal field this coming school year.

It was something we wanted to do, and we're very excited to do it – and let's be honest, it was to establish some goodwill for personal injury lawyers and our firm. We are dedicated to what we do and truly believe in fighting insurance companies for real human beings.

COVID-19 disrupted many students' plans and financial aid – some losing Bright Flight and other merit-based aid here in Missouri. We wanted to step up and help, albeit in a very small way. We strive to improve lives at our firm, and

this was one way we could do that. We joined with FIRST to help distribute the money to the recipient. So, who got the scholarship?

Well, let's start with the fact that all the applicants were beyond impressive. Their stories were remarkable and humbling. Initially, we only had one applicant. But the numbers soon grew. MeLinda, our scholarship coordinator, was in charge, and she kept handing me the applications and essays. Incredible people. Each one was as inspiring as the last. Each team member liked this one or that one. Some of the team cried when reading the essays.

We finally narrowed it to seven finalists. But we couldn't decide, and the start of school was quickly approaching. There was just no way to pick one over the others. So, I took the applications home

one weekend to make a final decision and started reading them early one Saturday morning.

There was no way I could decide who got one and who didn't. So, what did we do? What could we do? We decided to make as big an impact as we could and selected ALL SEVEN FINALISTS AND AWARDED THEM NEARLY \$20,000 in TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP MONEY!! I honestly don't know if we can do this amount every year (our office consists of five people), but I didn't want that to deter from what we could do NOW.

Those seven checks were given to the most inspiring and positive young people in our community. At a time when everything seems bleak and there seems to be no end in sight, these people will renew your hope in the future. These seven will absolutely have an impact on the communities where they reside.

We hope this small token helps them on their way. It allows us to remain committed to real people and the human experience – our ability to overcome against all odds. This is what our mission is, and these people are the human embodiment of it. Our lives are better for knowing their stories.

Our team is beyond proud to play a small part in helping them achieve their goals. Without all of their commitment, we cannot do this. Congrats to all our recipients!! You all deserve this.



SEEING DOUBLE

CELEBRITY COUPLES ARE MATCHING MASKS AND STAYING SAFE

Celebrity trends have a way of influencing the public, and the latest spotlight is on face masks. Some go big and bold with rhinestones and glitter while others opt for muted simplicity, but the newest trend to hit the tabloids is couples wearing matching face masks. The attention these masks are drawing is proving to be another great way to get citizens aboard the health and safety train.

Starting all the way back in May, Jennifer Lopez and Alex Rodriguez have been matching masks. They've been seen biking through their Miami neighborhood wearing neon-accented gray masks, and they often take to Instagram for a couples photoshoot in them.

Ben Affleck and Ana de Armas have spent all of 2020 perfecting their synchronized couple stroll. They're frequently spotted wearing masks to complement their respective outfits, but they have also been seen wearing matching versions featuring pastel prints.

Chris Pine and his girlfriend Annabelle Wallis like to stroll through Los Angeles together sporting flashy bandanas tied around the lower half of their faces. They may not

match patterns, but their cowboy-style face covering still screams "couple."

Justin and Hailey Bieber got a little goofy with an Instagram photoshoot to showcase twinning blue masks with cartoon mouths, proving that proper health and safety can be both entertaining and artistic.

This trend of celebrities finding ways to express themselves while staying safe and healthy isn't just fun — it provides great examples for how others can do the same. Donning a mask doesn't have to feel like a chore or a burden if it's turned into an opportunity to get creative. As with these celebrities, standout matching sets of masks can garner attention, start conversations, and, most importantly of all, demonstrate that proper safety measures deserve extra dedication.

Make mask shopping fun with your significant other or your family by finding masks that you'll all enjoy wearing in public together. It's a great opportunity to show your personality as a collective unit and say "yes" to staying healthy!

MEET SUSAN BLOW

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS INFLUENTIAL MISSOURIAN?

Missouri has a rich history of influential figures growing up in our state or making waves in our communities. While some are well known, such as Maya Angelou and Mark Twain, other Missourians who have played influential roles in our country's history might surprise you. Take Susan Blow, for example.

Susan Blow was an American educator credited with opening and operating the first public kindergarten school in the United States. She was born in 1843, the eldest of nine children. Blow and her siblings grew up in comfortable wealth and culture thanks to their father's business operations and political ties, but the family always put emphasis on education above all else. Even though education was

unusual for young women at the time, Blow was fortunate to have private tutors and attend private boarding schools during her early life. When the Civil War broke out and forced Blow to return home, she took it upon herself to keep her family's tradition of education by tutoring her younger siblings and teaching Sunday school.

In 1870, Blow traveled abroad to Europe, where she first came across the kindergarten teaching methods of German philosopher Friedrich Froebel. He believed in learning through play and cognitive development, and Blow was inspired to take these teachings back to St. Louis. Her father offered to set up a private kindergarten school, but she was adamant about serving as many children as she could through a public system.



After several years of training, Blow opened the country's very first public kindergarten in St. Louis in 1873. She taught a class of 42 students, covered all expenses out of her own pocket to keep the school running, and was not compensated for her teaching work. But her learning through play methods proved to be a success, and within three years, her kindergarten system had 50 teachers and over 1,000 students. By 1883, every public school in St. Louis had a kindergarten.

People like Susan Blow are historical pioneers we may not readily recognize, but without their forward thinking and contributions, our country might look a little different than it does today.

THE REALITIES OF THE ROAD

MORE SEMITRUCKS MEAN HIGHER RISKS FOR YOU

The coronavirus has caused countless ups and downs in trends and practices, but one that continues to skew upward is home delivery service. As people decide against going out for things like groceries and other home goods, more semitrucks are required to deliver those goods instead. Even if you might be taking your car out driving less frequently, this increase in the number of massive trucks out there is nothing to take lightly.

According to the Department of Transportation, semitrucks move more than 11 billion tons of freight every year. And that's just an average year when delivery services haven't increased! A large commercial truck can weigh 30 times more than a regular passenger vehicle, require considerably more stopping distance, and may also contain hazardous materials that make them even more dangerous in a crash scenario.

On top of the complicated specs of a semitruck, their drivers often spend long hours on the road and can experience fatigue. This makes them that much more liable to cause an accident with other cars. When that happens, it's often the passenger vehicle involved in the crash that suffers severe

damage or injury because of the sheer size and weight of the vehicle they've gone up against.

For all these reasons, the laws that govern truck accidents are complex — they don't often unfold the same way a regular car-to-car crash might. That's why having a lawyer help you navigate your way after you've been involved in a semitruck crash is necessary. A lawyer can get to the bottom of what caused a crash, whether it was driver negligence, vehicle malfunction, or even cargo malfunction. In some cases, the trucking company may not be held responsible at all. Each trucking case is different, but all of them can have devastating results if not handled properly.

Following a truck accident, it's important to file a claim as quickly as possible so valuable evidence held by the trucking company doesn't disappear. If you or a loved one has been involved in a semitruck accident, call our office so we can discuss your options.



SPOOKY STRAWBERRY GHOSTS

Inspired by Candiquik.com

These adorable chocolate-dipped strawberry ghosts will be the stars of your Halloween party!

INGREDIENTS

- 16 oz white chocolate, chopped
- 24 strawberries
- 1 package mini dark chocolate chips

DIRECTIONS

1. In a microwave-safe bowl, heat the white chocolate at 50% power for 30 seconds. Remove it and stir, then repeat the process until melted.
2. Lay out a sheet of parchment paper.
3. One by one, dip the strawberries into the melted white chocolate and set them on the parchment. Allow the extra chocolate to pool to form a "tail" effect.
4. Before the chocolate coating fully cools, add three mini chocolate chips to each berry to form two eyes and a mouth.
5. Let chocolate set, then serve your spooky snacks!

YOUR REFERRALS MEAN THE WORLD TO US

There is no greater compliment we can receive than a client telling a friend or loved one about us. If you know somebody who has been injured and needs an attorney who will fight on their behalf and give their case the attention it deserves, please pass along this newsletter and have them give us a call at 314-293-4222. Thank you for spreading the word about Finney Injury Law.