



FINNEY INJURY LAW
- TRIAL LAWYERS -

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



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Enjoy the Great Outdoors WITHOUT LEAVING MISSOURI

June is Great Outdoors Month, and there may be no better time of the year to enjoy our local natural surroundings. Missouri has its fair share of awe-inspiring places where the entire family can enjoy a quiet weekend. If you're looking for your next road trip, try one of these spots!

Elephant Rocks State Park

These red granite boulders near Pilot Knob might not look like elephants unless you squint, but their evolving appearance makes them no less impressive. The largest of the 1.5 billion-year-old formations weighs 680 tons and stands 27 feet tall, and no one has definitively determined how many boulders stand on site. You can leisurely enjoy the scenery on a trail or get adventurous with "bouldering," a unique form of rock climbing.

Fantastic Caverns

Missouri is the Cave State, and its most majestic example might be Fantastic Caverns near Springfield. Visitors enjoy a 55-minute tram ride through the cave that follows the path left by an ancient river. Tour guides share the history of the cave and the science behind its astounding geological formations. With the temperature inside hovering around 60 degrees F, this attraction is perfect for visiting any time of year.

Ha Ha Tonka State Park

Conde Nast Travel once named Ha Ha Tonka State Park in Camdenton the most beautiful place in Missouri. With over a dozen hiking trails winding throughout this park on the Lake of the Ozarks, you can take in every bit. Visitors can also enjoy the tranquil beauty of Ha Ha Tonka Springs, view a 70-foot wide natural



bridge, and see onsite castle ruins dating back more than a century.

Dogwood Canyon Nature Park

There might be no better way to visit the Ozark Mountain region than at the "10,000-acre paradise" of Dogwood Canyon Nature Park in Lampe. The park offers wildlife tours, trout fishing, and horseback riding for an additional fee, and anyone who pays for admission can enjoy the combined 15 miles of hiking and biking trails. You also won't want to miss the enormous tree house or educational conservation center.



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We were supposed to start a trial this morning. Alex reminded me that we should be picking a jury right now. I had forgotten. We were supposed to start a traumatic brain injury case today, but it was continued over our objection. There was nothing we could do. The judge moved the case at the defense attorney's request. We can't dwell on it. Just time to move on to the next one and make sure we are prepared for the next go-around.

Honestly, it might turn out for the best. The client needs this time to get prepared. I think the client was not quite ready for trial and just wanted the process over with rather than getting the best result. I think we will do great on this case when we finally get to try it. The client is deserving; the injury is serious, and it was a horrific crash. They deserve a great and just result. But we have to wait until November now.

It will be here soon enough.

I am proud our firm can wait that long without begging to settle. For some firms, a continuance like that on a trial setting can be a difficult financial test. It can cause you to second-guess the last offer and start potentially justifying a settlement. You start thinking about trading money for time, time for money, or whatever the saying is. You start thinking about closing the case. You stop thinking about the client. That is never good.

We have made a conscious effort to never settle our cases based on the financial need of the firm. Based on a need to make payroll or meet the rent. We have been fortunate to grow slowly and in a healthy way. We emphasize smarter growth based on what I have seen over the years. Some firms have big overheads, fancy offices, and other shiny things.

This costs money. Lots of money. Every month. Most of those firms need to meet monthly budgets. Big overhead equals big stress to me. I like to sleep at night.

When you start considering the financial needs of your cases, you begin making conflicted decisions. You start making decisions that put the client's interest at odds with your overhead. That is not a good place. Financial stress can sink cases, law firms, marriages, etc. It is like a water leak — it can do tremendous damage over time, and before you know it, your entire foundation is shot.

So, what do we do to avoid this? First, we could do more to prepare for financial stress in our business. But we make sure we invest in our cases and plan them out. We get trial settings, work up files, and never spend our money before we get it. All our decisions can be managed with what we have already — our cases already on our docket. We are not beholden to the future to pay for the present. We never want to be.

Once we got to this point, continuances didn't matter as much. Yes, we still want to move the case. But it is no longer life or death. Our day in court will come. The jury will hear this case, and we will put our best case on. We will put up some great people and an inspiring story in this case. It will be the truth. I am very excited for November. I mean, what is better than a trial right before Thanksgiving? Nothing.

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Monkey Around This Summer

CHECK OUT SOME OF AMERICA'S BEST ZOOS

Summer is one of the best times of the year to travel. Kids are out of school and want to do something fun every weekend, which can be difficult to accommodate if you've already exhausted your local options. If you're looking to travel, you can visit a beach, take in the sights and sounds of an amusement park, or spend some time with animals while visiting a zoo. Nearly every state in our country has a handful of zoos or aquariums, but some stand above the rest.

Here are three of the best zoos you can visit in the U.S.



Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium

The Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Nebraska, is consistently ranked as one of the top five zoos in the world. It prides itself on hosting rare, endangered animals you can't see elsewhere. It has the world's largest nocturnal exhibit, and one of the major highlights is the

Desert Dome, an 84,000-square-foot indoor desert that maintains an authentic desert ecosystem. This is a must-visit for any animal lover in your family.

The Bronx Zoo

You don't usually think about seeing exotic animals when you visit New York City, but the Bronx Zoo is one of the best places to view animals in America. Opened in 1899, the Bronx Zoo is responsible for many of the advancements relating to animal captivity. This was one of the first zoos to ditch cages for natural environments and create an animal hospital. With over 6,000 species, there's an animal for everyone at the Bronx Zoo.

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens

While the San Diego Zoo is often boasted as California's largest and best zoo, another zoo is worth checking out. The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens outside Palm Springs has entertained visitors for decades. There are events at this zoo every day, one of the most popular being the keeper connections and animal encounters, where you get up close and personal with the animals while learning more about their habitats and lifestyles.

RESCUE DOG'S LEGACY LIVES ON

How the World Fell for Frida



Dressed in protective goggles, blue booties, and a matching vest, this incredible rescue dog became a symbol of hope in Mexico. Frida, a cheerful yellow Labrador retriever, was a devoted member of the Mexican Navy known for her search and rescue skills. Trained to find people trapped under rubble after earthquakes, Frida always worked hard to save lives.

While the nation was devastated by the disaster, this smiley rescue pup brought worldwide attention to the tragedy. Frida's dedication (and impeccable style) quickly made her an internet celebrity, and soon, murals of the lifesaving canine graced the walls of Mexico City. Even Captain America, aka Chris Evans, gave Frida a shoutout on Twitter, adding, "What did we do to deserve dogs?"

The hero dog then traveled the world, helping countries suffering from the aftermath of disastrous earthquakes. Frida saved lives in Haiti and Ecuador before retiring from her position in 2019 at 10 years old to live the rest of her days in comfort and love. Sadly, the Mexican Navy announced Frida's passing in November 2022 due to old age. She was 13 years old.

In her honor, a magnificent bronze statue of Frida, clad in goggles and boots, stands in front of the Mexican Navy office in Mexico City. On the day of her death, the Mexican Navy changed their Twitter banner to an illustration of Frida and spread the hashtag "#HastaSiempreFrida." Frida will always be remembered for her lifesaving work and the hope she embodied for the entire world.

Frida became a national hero when a devastating earthquake hit Mexico City in 2017. The 7.1 magnitude earthquake took more than 300 lives and injured many more. While sifting through dangerous debris and aftershocks, Frida saved 12 people after finding them alive while uncovering more than 40 bodies during her lifesaving career.

STAY ABOVE WATER UNDERSTAND YOUR DAYCARE'S POOL SAFETY

Splashing around in the pool is many kids' favorite part of summer. Unfortunately, it's also among the most dangerous. Parents regularly receive reminders about closely monitoring their children during water play. But how can they keep their kids safe in someone else's care?

It's not uncommon for daycares to have pools on the property, especially when the facility is home-based. Even when the children in daycare don't use the pool, its presence still poses a risk. Children often sneak off to explore water, and drowning can happen in only minutes.

Pools and other bodies of water also pose additional risks besides drowning. Children can fall on the slick surfaces surrounding pools, potentially causing broken bones, concussions, or spinal cord injuries. Kids also receive lacerations from nearby equipment. Even the drains and filters on pools are dangerous to the youngest children.

Before enrolling your child in a daycare with a pool onsite, parents should ask detailed questions about the facility's safety precautions. Whether they run a daycare or not, every property with a pool should enclose it with a fence at least 4 feet high and no gaps large enough for children to slip through. The latch should be at least 54 inches off the ground or mounted on the pool-side of the fence. Parents should also inquire about hard tops for the pool and what precautions will prevent children from escaping outdoors unattended.

If children at the daycare will be actively using the pool, parents should further ask about supervision protocols and the adult-to-child ratio. Even the most attentive adults can only watch so many excited children at once; it only takes moments for a tragedy to happen.

Many children will also be attending summer camps with water onsite. Parents should strongly reconsider sending children who can't swim to these camps. They should also check the training and accreditation of the facility before enrolling their children and understand how many lifeguards will be on duty.

Despite parents' best efforts, injuries still happen. When one occurs, parents should hire an experienced daycare injury attorney as soon as possible to protect their rights and help secure fair compensation. Finney Injury Law regularly handles daycare injury cases, and we would be glad to discuss your options.



Last Chance to Apply for the Finney Injury Law Scholarship!

Finney Injury Law is thrilled to announce the fourth year of our scholarship program! We're offering five scholarships worth \$2,500 each to promote diversity and equity in higher education.

Recipients can use their funds for tuition fees, books, or housing expenses — even LSAT course reimbursement if needed. Our goal with this scholarship program is to provide opportunities for students who are often underrepresented within legal professions, empowering them as they pursue their goals and prepare themselves for a career in law.

To see the list of eligibility criteria and application requirements, scan the QR code or visit FinneyInjuryLaw.com/the-finney-injury-law-scholarship.

Application Deadline

All applications must be submitted via the website above by **July 1**.



SCAN ME

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.