



FINNEY INJURY LAW
- TRIAL LAWYERS -

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AN ICON OF AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT — ST. LOUIS'S MONUMENTAL GATEWAY ARCH —

National Skyscraper Day on Sept. 3 celebrates the world's growing number of super-sized buildings. Skyscrapers have long been a symbol of modernity and American prosperity, which is undoubtedly true of St. Louis's tallest and most famous structure. The Gateway Arch soars 630 feet above the Mississippi into our skyline, welcoming all travelers to the western part of the U.S.

The origins of the Gateway Arch lie in a controversial urban renewal plan from 1933. Local business owners wanted to clear blight from the area and proposed a monument to celebrate Thomas Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase. Historians believe the bond measure to secure funding was rigged, with The St. Louis Post-Dispatch (a regional newspaper) finding 46,000 fake ballots. Once the area was bulldozed, it sat dormant for a decade.

St. Louis revived the project in 1947 with a contest. The architect who submitted the best memorial design for the site would receive a \$40,000 prize — more than \$500,000 in today's money. Eero Saarinen won with his steel arch design but died in 1961 before the project broke ground.

Completing the Gateway Arch required a monumental \$15 million investment. (By comparison, Mt. Rushmore 20 years earlier had cost less than \$1 million.) Workers simultaneously built both pillars up from the ground, which was an incredibly precise process. Experts say that if the footings were off by as little as 1/64th of an inch, the two curves would have been unable to meet in the middle.

Construction was completed on Oct. 28, 1965, and currently sees over one million visitors yearly. The surrounding Gateway Arch National Park includes St. Louis' famous Old Courthouse and the National Museum of the Archway, which traces St. Louis's history, the country's early westward expansion, and the building of the arch.

Since revitalization was completed in 2018, the park is more family-friendly, educational, and attractive than ever. If you haven't yet taken in the new underground museum, it may be time to revisit the waterfront and partake in some St. Louis history and pride.



- NEWSLETTER -

1600 S. BRENTWOOD BLVD., SUITE 220 • ST. LOUIS, MO 63144 // FINNEYINJURYLAW.COM // 314-293-4222 // SEPTEMBER 2023



I am writing this early on the last day of my family vacation. We were lucky enough to take two weeks on the beaches of Lake Michigan. I work with some of the most talented and motivated people, which allows me to do this with my family. To me, there is no more beautiful place in the summer than here. My fondness for the Big Lake is probably in my DNA. It is no secret that I have a soft spot for this place I hope I instill in my children.

Yesterday was our last day on the beach. We spent every day on the beach. Yesterday was the best. The water was warmer and had a blue-green clarity to it despite the waves that can make it cloudy. The wind was enough to keep the heat at bay, and the sun never quit. I sat there in a chair on the beach and listened to the hum of conversations behind me, mixed with the wind and the waves. I closed my eyes. Nothing can beat this. It was a great day.

I was thinking about the rhythm of life or seasons of life as I sat there. One of my sons' teachers came to the beach with us one day. She remarked that she plans on spending a month

here when she can. She hoped it was next year. A month up here sounds amazing. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized the rhythm of my family's life is not ready for that. That would not fit. The stress would be extreme. Being away that long would be difficult. I've learned that fighting the natural progression of things is a losing battle. Recognizing where I am is what is most important.

It got me thinking about what season of rhythm my family is in and also about how the rhythms change with the years. My kids are young enough that they do not have a significant fear of missing out on events at home. I know that will change. They will want to be places other than where I am. It is expected and part of growth, but it makes me terribly sad. If I could just keep the boys young on the beach forever, in the sun and the water, hiking together, being together, I would. If I could just keep my daughter with her sun-bleached hair in a ponytail and sand on her cheeks, I would.

But I can't. The rhythm will change. And I must change with it. If not, I would be the old man clinging to the idea of days gone by rather than relishing the memories and making new ones. I would be outdated. No one wants something that has expired.

The oldest boy starts soccer today. The next one is ready to go as well. And on down the line. I've got a full fall ahead of me with trials and some speaking engagements on trial techniques. The seasons are changing. My life's rhythm is changing. My family is changing. My practice is changing. Everything around me is changing.

My goal is to accept the change, be prepared for it, enjoy it, and move with it. Resistance is futile. It will only create chaos and stress. Each season changes for us. And each new vintage makes us better versions of who we were. Some of us may fight this. We may yearn for the days behind us. I do, too. But I also look forward to the new rhythm coming our way. New experiences and new memories await. I hope to make many of them with you all. I hope they are as great as the ones I have already had.



FINNEY INJURY LAW WELCOMES TRIAL ATTORNEY RYAN CAMPBELL

Ryan Campbell is an experienced trial attorney from St. Louis, Missouri, with a passion for ensuring wrongdoers are held accountable and those who have been injured obtain justice. He attended the University of Missouri for undergraduate studies and the prestigious Saint Louis University School of Law to earn his law degree. After beginning his legal career on the defense side, he quickly moved to plaintiff's work, where he has served clients passionately ever since.

When not working hard in the courtroom, Ryan loves spending quality time with his wife, Madalyn, and their two daughters, Margaret and Genevieve. Additionally, he enjoys exploring nature through skiing, hunting, and various sports activities. Ryan is knowledgeable, professional and has an unwavering commitment to providing exemplary legal counsel to those who seek it.



How a WWII Cat Survived 3 Ship Sinkings: The Story of Unsinkable Sam

You've heard the saying, "Cats have nine lives," and while there are countless tales of cats falling from trees or high-above windows, one cat put this theory to the test, earning himself the name "Unsinkable Sam."

Sam's original name was "Oscar," and his legacy began aboard the Bismarck, one of the two first-class Nazi battleships in World War II. The Bismarck (with Sam) was launched on Feb. 14, 1939, and soon after engaged in battle with The Prince of Wales, an Allied battleship. The Nazi ship was severely damaged in this battle and ultimately sunk. Only 118 of the 2,200 crew members survived, plus Sam.

The British destroyer HMS Cossack found Sam floating on a board hours later, and they promptly scooped him up and welcomed him aboard. Sam had officially switched sides to the Allied forces.

Now on the right side of history, Sam lived with the British crew for the next few months as they performed convoy escort duties — until a torpedo struck the HMS Cossack in October 1941, killing all 139 members aboard. Except for Sam.

Once again, Sam clung to a wooden plank and floated safely to the nearby shore of Gibraltar, a British Overseas Territory. British service members who found him ashore put two and two together and realized the cat — the very one their fellow servicemen saved in 1939 — was the only survivor of HMS Cossack, earning him the nickname "Unsinkable Sam."

The group in Gibraltar was from the HMS Ark Royal crew, and of course, they loaded Sam aboard when it was time to launch. But as Sam's luck would have it, a torpedo struck the HMS Ark Royal just a month later, leaving him once again clinging to a floating plank near a boat launch back in Gibraltar.



Luckily, Sam's boating days were over, and he was honorably transferred to the position of "mouse hunter" in the building of the governor-general in Gibraltar. Eventually, the British restationed their favorite floating feline to a "home for sailors" in Belfast, where he lived for the rest of his days until his peaceful passing in 1955.

Sam's story may not officially prove cats have nine lives, but it makes at least three seem likely!

DAY CARE DANGERS

Nothing matters more to a parent than keeping their baby happy and healthy. An injury is their worst nightmare, but accidents happen far too often — sometimes, in the places where we most depend on our children being safe. Finney Injury Law is in a unique position to see the devastation day care injuries can cause, and we want to share some of the most common sources of danger in honor of Baby Safety Month.

Bottle Warmer Injuries

A bottle warmer can be a lifesaver for busy parents, and they help prevent a baby from touching or ingesting scalding milk. Day cares regularly use these devices for safety and to ensure they can feed many babies quickly — but bottle warmers can also pose their own dangers. Most heating



mechanisms involve warming water to heat the bottle indirectly. The burns can be severe if a curious toddler tugs on the electric cord or a poorly placed bottle warmer tips and spills the water.

Chemical Burns

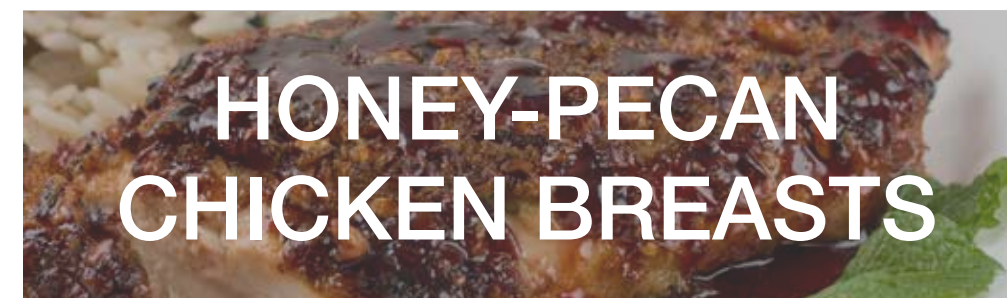
Keeping dangerous chemicals out of children's reach is crucial, but failing to store them in a childproof cabinet can result in grave injuries. Bleach and drain cleaners are incredibly toxic; children could spill or even drink them. At-home day cares may pose additional risks if products like gasoline or fertilizer are stored onsite where a child can access them. Chemical burns internally or on the skin might be mild or life-threatening, so anyone who suspects one should seek medical attention immediately.

RISKS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW

Finger Injuries

Tiny fingers are curious but very delicate. They're prone to being caught in furniture, door hinges, or closing drawers. While many of these injuries are mild, more serious ones can result in loss of sensation, pain, or swelling. Every day care should make a point to identify potential hazards in their facility and install safety features like soft-closing drawers and finger-pinch guards. While accidents happen, day cares have a responsibility to correct obvious dangers.

Parents should be able to trust day care providers to keep their children safe. But while most are responsible, instances of negligence can have lasting consequences. If your child was injured at day care, you might be entitled to compensation for your medical bills and other expenses. Call Finney Injury Law for a free consultation, and we'll gladly advise you on your next steps.



HONEY-PECAN CHICKEN BREASTS

Inspired by TasteOfHome.com

With summer over and fall here, pecan and honey reign supreme in this sweet chicken recipe. The honey provides a perfect caramelization while pecans pack on the crunch factor!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 6-oz boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 1/8 tsp black pepper
- 1/8 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 tbsp butter
- 3 tbsp honey
- 2 tbsp finely chopped pecans

DIRECTIONS

1. Pound chicken with a meat mallet to 1/2-inch thickness. Sprinkle with salt, garlic powder, black pepper, and cayenne pepper.
2. In a large nonstick skillet, heat butter over medium heat; brown chicken on both sides. Cook, covered until chicken is no longer pink, about 6–8 minutes, turning once.
3. Drizzle with honey and sprinkle with pecans. Cook covered until chicken is glazed, about 2–3 minutes.

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.