

THE SLG ADVISOR

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A Labor Day Shoutout

TO THE INCREDIBLE TEAM AT SPADA LAW GROUP

To a lot of people, Labor Day weekend is just a time to barbecue and celebrate the final days of summer. While both of those things are true, it's also a day to celebrate workers and all of the contributions they make to their workplaces and to the overall economy. With that in mind, I wanted to use this space to share a little about why I think my team deserves all the praise they can get and more.

For starters, they help me accomplish more, work with additional clients, and focus on the work that I really enjoy doing. When I was a younger attorney just starting out, I had to do all the pretrial work as well as the work for the trial itself. While I personally love representing my clients at trials, mediations, and arbitrations, much of the pretrial work, while critically important, is not nearly as glamorous or fun. However, now that I have fantastic trial attorneys like

Steven on our team to manage much of the serious trial preparation, I can focus more on other aspects of running a growing law firm, such as building a great team through hiring and marketing more effectively so we can help more people.

Every successful business owner reaches a certain point where they realize that no matter how much they'd like to, they can't do everything themselves. We have to delegate work to people we trust if we want to grow and help more and more people. And thankfully, when I'm on vacation or otherwise away from the office, I can trust my team to keep things running smoothly. In fact, I took a week-long vacation in August, and it was the busiest week for new client intakes in our history. The week went so well the staff joked (I hope) that I should take more vacation. It's such a great feeling knowing our clients get such great care even when I am away.

Secondly, I'm grateful for the people I work with because, over

time, they become like family to me. Right now, I have several team members who have been with me for more than a decade and one approaching 20 years. When someone sticks around for that long, it's hard to picture them going anywhere else. You do everything you can to help them stay around because it's impossible to find someone who feels as much like family as they do.

When you have the same employees for that long, it also makes it hard to hire new people because you don't want to upset the culture that naturally comes with working with people for so long. It's almost like when you have comfortable rhythms in your family, and then a sibling or a child gets married and you have to figure out how to incorporate them into those rhythms that you've had for years. However, just like when you get a new family member, you're always happy to have a new employee on board who can one day blend into your business's culture!

We really are a "family first" law firm, and that goes for whether you're a

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What Do I Do if I'm Injured While Out of State?

How Spada Law Group Can Still Help You

As the pandemic continues to wane, more and more people are traveling – many of them to places and along roads that are unfamiliar to them. Unfamiliar settings, whether those be roads, convention centers, hotels, or Airbnbs, can mean more risky environments, if only because you don't know what to expect. This means injuries can be more common when you travel away from home.

So, you might ask yourself: Can a Massachusetts personal injury lawyer help me even if I injure myself in another state? In short, yes. Here's how.

The simple truth is that most personal injury cases never go to trial. They're settled outside of court between your legal team and the insurance companies. So, even if you're injured out of state, you should still call a lawyer from your home state you know is experienced in practicing personal injury law. They can settle your case for you without much stress, regardless of where in the country you were injured.

However, even if the case does go to trial, you should still first call an attorney from your home state. At Spada Law, we have close professional relationships with experienced personal injury law firms across the country. So, even if we're not able to represent you, we can refer you to a legal team you know you can trust.

If you would really like us to represent you at your trial, however, there is also a way for that to happen. The process is called *pro hac vice*, which basically means "for this occasion only." If you petition another state's highest court to have an out-of-state attorney represent you, and they grant that petition, they can represent you in that state's court as well. However, they must also enter into an agreement with a lawyer who is licensed to practice law in the state in which you were injured.

Even if you're injured out of state, your best option is still to call an experienced personal injury attorney from Massachusetts. At Spada Law, we can work with the insurance companies, refer you to experienced personal injury attorneys in the state where you were injured, and even represent you in out-of-state courts through the *pro hac vice* process. Call or text today at 617.889.5000 for a consultation on your case.

Sending Your

MAKE SURE YOU

College is a time for kids to grow emotionally, intellectually and socially – in short, to become full-fledged adults. However, even though they're out of the house, if you're a parent, you probably still will want to be involved in caring for your child in case they fall ill or injure themselves while they're away at school. Unfortunately, if they're 18 or older, you might find yourself unable to get key information about your child's condition.

That's because the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protects the privacy of medical records for legal adults. If you want to retain access to your child's medical records, then all you and your child need to do is fill out a few forms that will allow you to get all the information you need about their illness or injury.

A HIPAA Authorization

This form allows health care providers to disclose key pieces of health information about

Review of the Month



"Lenny and his team are amazing. They went above and beyond to help me through a very difficult time after being involved in a motorcycle accident. Lenny listened to the account of my accident and immediately began working on the case. His staff handled all my medical bills and treatments, even getting the cost(s) of treatments lowered when the insurance company wouldn't pay."

"Lenny was well educated on my injuries. He presented a well researched, documented, and persuasive argument. We ultimately prevailed after mediation failed to produce an agreeable result."

"I cannot say enough about the quality and care I received from Lenny and the amazing group of professionals he employs. I recommend him often!"

–Jim Moretti

Kids Off to College?

YOU HAVE THESE 3 FORMS SIGNED!

your child to you. On it, your child can choose different areas of their health that they desire for you to have access to in case they become sick or injured. You can usually find this form online, at your doctor's office, or on your child's university's website. It doesn't need to be notarized.

A Health Care Proxy

This form will appoint you to a position in which you can make medical decisions on behalf of your child, in case they are incapacitated or otherwise unable to make health care decisions for themselves.

Power of Attorney

While your child appointing you as their durable power of attorney gives you power to make health care decisions, it also allows you to conduct business on their behalf if they're otherwise unable to do so as

well, such as if they're studying abroad. When you have power of attorney, you can sign tax returns, access bank accounts, and pay bills.

At Spada Law Group, it's our sincere hope that your child stays safe, and that if something happens, you'll be able to help them in any way you can. For any further questions about these forms call or text us at 617.889.5000.



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member of the old guard at Spada Law or if you're new to the team. We go above and beyond for each other. I remember one time when we had a pipe burst in the office, and I couldn't get there to solve the problem myself since I live about 30 minutes away from the office. Fortunately, Joan, who has been with the firm for 13 years, lives very close by. Even though she didn't have to, she made sure to call the right people and see that the mess was cleaned up. She didn't have to do that; that's not her job. But she always treats the business as if it was hers, and that is not something you can train someone for. You either have it or you don't.

I try to make the road go both ways. If anyone on my team is dealing with a sick child, a sick pet they love like a child, or another family issue, I do what I can to support them in that. That's what it means to have a family-first mindset.

Finally, I'm grateful for my team members because even though it might be my name that's on this newsletter, my business is nothing if not a reflection of the hard work of the people who work at Spada Law. If one of my employees has ever gone above and beyond to help you and your case, don't hesitate to thank them if you get a chance!

-Len Spada

Local Chef's Corner

We Want YOUR Recipes

For Our Newsletter!



While we would normally have a recipe to share with you in this part of our newsletter, this month, we want to make an exciting announcement: **Spada Law Group wants YOUR recipes! We are planning a Client Kitchen section for our newsletter. So, help us collect enough recipes to make it happen.**

That's right – if you want to see your recipe in our newsletter, we are now taking submissions. So, if you have a fun new recipe you think everyone should discover, or an old family favorite your grandmother used to make, we want to see it, and we want our readers to see it, too!

If you want to submit a recipe, please do so at MFIGUEROA@SPADALAWGROUP.COM. We're looking forward to seeing what you send us!

CALL NOW! 617.889.5000 • 3

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Have a Recipe You Want to Share? Share It Here!

Willie the Parrot: The Ultimate Danger Alarm



Willie the Parrot: The Ultimate Danger Alarm

Willie the Quaker parrot was a pretty remarkable bird. Like many parrots, he had a knack for mimicking certain sounds and words, including barking dog noises, human kissing noises, and a fair share of swear words. However, what made Willie a hero one day was not just what he said, but also when he said it.

Meagan Howard, Willie's owner, brought him over to her friend Samantha Kuusk's house while she babysat Kuusk's little daughter, Hannah. Hannah and Willie were both in the kitchen while Meagan prepared a Pop-Tart for Hannah's breakfast. After placing the Pop-Tart on the table, Meagan stepped away to use the bathroom.

While she was away, however, Hannah got her hands on the Pop-Tart and began to scarf it down, lodging a piece in her windpipe. She started choking and was unable to signal to Meagan that something was wrong. Luckily, Willie came to the rescue.

Willie began squawking and shrieking, saying the words "Mama! Baby!" over and over again. In a matter of moments, Meagan knew something was wrong. She rushed to the

kitchen to find a very frantic Willie and a very blue Hannah. Meagan jumped into action. She grabbed Hannah and performed the Heimlich maneuver until the Pop-Tart piece dislodged itself and shot out of her mouth.

Meagan may have been the one to stop Hannah from choking, but she insists that Willie was the real hero of the story. If he hadn't used his unique mimicking skills to get Meagan's attention, she doesn't know what would have happened. It's worth noting that before that incident, Willie had never used the phrase "Mama! Baby!" before. He knew something was wrong, and he knew how to get help.

Shortly after the incident, Willie received the local Red Cross chapter's Animal Lifesaver Award for his heroic actions.

