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We Go Further Than the Competition...



On the night of Friday, July 31, 2009, John and his wife, Denise, got ready to attend a midnight mass at their church in the city, a routine they had grown to be familiar with over the years.

The couple were accustomed to bringing John's mother-in-law and three young children to the service, all under the age of 5, but as an *"act of God,"* he said,

the mother-in-law hadn't come to their house on time.

John decided that it was best to leave his mother-in-law home with the kids. They stopped and picked up a friend, Sam, and all three headed to the church.

At 1 a.m., the prayer service let out. Sam, along with John and Denise, who were looking forward to getting home to their family, got into John's vehicle to head home.

Meanwhile, on the other side of town, a 23-year-old man, already intoxicated when he arrived at a tavern, finished a second pitcher of vodka and lemonade. Visibly intoxicated, he left the bar at 1 a.m.

John, in the driver seat, Denise, in the passenger seat, and Sam in the back seat, headed down Interstate-55 on their path home to their northside residence. But soon after heading down the interstate, John saw something that didn't look right. Flashing lights **heading the wrong way** on the interstate, chasing a car with a drunk driver operating it, both cars speeding toward John's vehicle.

The car being chased by the police suddenly crashed into John's car, striking with violent force the passenger side where Denise sat. The impact sent John's vehicle into a violent spin against the concrete barrier. When the impact ended, the air was silent. The police, who had been in violation of the city's chase policy, the drunk driver, whose vehicle also spun out of control into the roadway, and my client's totaled car on the barrier, sat still.

Twenty-five minutes after the paramedics were called, an ambulance arrived on the scene, but could not assist



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Denise because she was trapped in the vehicle. Sam was transported to Northwestern Memorial Hospital. An additional ambulance arrived 20 minutes later on the scene without equipment to help Denise, so John was taken to the same hospital. Workers did not get to Denise until **an hour and 10 minutes after the accident occurred**, when the Chicago Fire Department arrived with equipment to extract her from the vehicle.

Denise was severely injured and fighting for her life. Hours after the accident, taking her last breaths, she died at Northwestern Memorial Hospital on August 1, 2009. Her age, a tender and young 38. She left behind her three young children and a loving husband.

I remember the first day that I met John who had been involved in such a tragic accident in July 2010. He had hired an attorney 8 months prior, and was not happy with their services, so he came to see us. He had heard about DLG from a friend, and wanted to discuss the case with us only days before the statute of limitation.

John's former attorney had sued the drunk driver, and left it at that. But we knew there was more. We used a comprehensive approach. We dug deep. In the end, we added the tavern that had overserved the drunk driver on the lawsuit. We added the police officers for an unauthorized police chase that resulted in this tragic crash. We added the City of Chicago for the ambulance workers that never performed the life-saving procedure that should have been performed.

Our efforts paid off. We recently settled for \$188,000 with the tavern for a policy limits, but the maximum policy limits, minus a 4% discount. We utilized the Dram Shop Act - a statute or case law in 38 states which makes a business which sells alcoholic drinks or a host who serves liquor to a drinker who is obviously intoxicated or close to it, strictly liable to anyone injured by the drunken patron or guest.

And we're not done. This is just the beginning. This is what DLG is all about. We aggressively advocate for our clients. Once all of the facts are lined up, we passionately get you the results that are deserved. Thank you all for your continued support. Feel free to call our office to discuss an incident that you have questions about. We will take the time to listen, get you answers, and most importantly, get you results that matter.

Names were changed in this article to protect the privacy of our clients.

New Faces

Roger Hoyle joined DLG in March 2011 as an Associate Attorney. His areas of practice include serious personal injury, toxic torts, civil rights, and trucking/auto accidents.

Attorney Hoyle graduated from the University of Illinois at



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Chicago a Bachelors of Art degree in Political Science in 1998. Attorney Hoyle had substantial corporate professional experience prior to attending law school, working at such firms and corporations like Kirkland & Ellis, Cardinal Health, and Abbott Laboratories.

Mr. Hoyle worked as a Law Clerk Supervisor at Gunty & McCarthy, an insurance defense firm, from 2004-2009. He then worked as an Associate at Corbett & Ashe, a plaintiff's personal injury and medical malpractice firm from 2010-2011 before joining Dinizulu Law Group. Ltd. as an Associate Attorney in March of 2011.

Mr. Hoyle received his J.D. from John Marshall Law School in Chicago. While at John Marshall, Mr. Hoyle was a member of the Phi Delta Phi fraternity and received a CALI Award in Federal Criminal Law. He graduated in the top-third of his class in 2010.

Mr. Hoyle's hobbies include history, astronomy, basketball, and softball. He is very politically active, currently being a member of the ACLU, and has done volunteer work on the campaigns of Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

Melissa Soria joined DLG in June 2011 as our Community and Media Relations Representative. Her responsibilities include facilitating DLG's outreach to the community by organizing and arranging seminars and speaking engagements that affect our loved ones. Additionally, she is in charge of our strategic social media networking, branding, and public relations campaigns, as well as our charitable efforts.

Ms. Soria graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelors of Art degree in 2004 in Mass Communications. While there, she wrote for numerous publications such as the school's newspaper, The Daily Vidette, as well as the Alumni magazine.

She worked as a Features Reporter and Editor at the Pharos-Tribune in Logansport, Indiana, from 2006-2008 where she received recognition from the state for a series she wrote about a man battling cancer. While there she also created a series on the stigmas of the homeless.

In 2008, she worked as a staff member on the Obama for America campaign in Lafayette, Indiana, where she recruited and trained volunteers, canvassed homes, and planned voting events in several counties in Indiana.

The following year, she started a marketing company, Creative Visions Consulting, where she worked with numerous organizations, mostly non-profits such as Dreams for Kids, Life for the World, and First Candle.

She continues to volunteer for Chicago non-profits dedicated to empowering underprivileged youth. She was a band facilitator for Girls Rock! Chicago last year, and sits on the Associate Board for Dreams for Kids.

Tell Congress: Stop the Assault on Patients' Rights

A majority of Republicans in the House are pushing H.R. 5, a bill that would give the medical industry the green light to cut corners and endanger patients' health.

Defend your rights. Tell your member of Congress to oppose H.R. 5.

H.R. 5, called the "Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare Act," would shield nursing homes, hospitals, drug and medical device companies, and doctors from accountability when their misconduct harms or kills patients.

Preventable mistakes by the medical industry kill hundreds of thousands of people each year and injure millions more.

But instead of proposing reforms to prevent needless deaths and injuries, H.R. 5 would make it harder for patients to hold wrongdoers accountable, regardless of how egregious their misconduct is or how severely they have injured patients.

Even as millions are harmed because of preventable errors, H.R. 5 would let medical providers be more lax about mistakes.

Tell your representative that the medical industry should not be let off the hook when it provides substandard medical care or defective drugs and medical devices.

"Hot Coffee" documentary on tort reform will make you boil over

Everyone seems to have heard about the McDonald's coffee case.



An elderly woman spills coffee that she purchased from a McDonald's drive-up window; she sues McDonald's in a "frivolous" lawsuit; then she recovers millions of dollars making herself and her attorneys rich. Right? Wrong.

Producer/Director Susan Saladoff from Ashland, OR reveals in her new movie, *Hot Coffee*, the facts of the case and what really happened to the elderly Albuquerque woman, Stella Liebeck. It looks at the legal case and explores how and why the case garnered so much media attention, who funded that effort, and to what end.

Hot Coffee premiered on HBO on Monday, June 27, 2011. The film had its debut at the Sundance Film Festival and has been featured at film festivals throughout the US, Canada and Israel. The reviews have been fantastic. The film just won the top Prize for Best Documentary at the Seattle Film Festival and recently made the official

selection cut at the Sundance Film Festival. Many have noted how little they really understood about the McDonald's case and its impact on people who seek justice through our court system.

The film looks at the groups behind the efforts to undermine our civil justice system. We encourage you to watch it and learn some surprising facts that might challenge what you think about the case, and the way the corporate media machine can distort our perception of the facts. *Courtesy Statesman Journal.*

DLG Launches Dream Trip Contest

Dinizulu Law Group, Ltd. is offering a free tropical vacation to its Facebook fans and those who e-mail soria@dinizululawgroup.com with the subject, "I Want To Win!"



Follow us on Facebook @dinizululawgroup and on Twitter @dinizululaw for more info!

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We Love Referrals!!!

Referrals Welcome!

If you know a relative or a friend who has been injured, tell them about us. We are here to advocate for fair and equitable compensation for victims. We appreciate the trust you have placed in us.

Nursing Home Abuse Seminar



Contact the Dinizulu Law Group, Ltd. to learn more about the **FREE** Nursing Home Abuse Seminars that Attorney Yao Dinizulu sponsors at your church, fraternity or sorority, lodge or group gathering. For more information contact the Dinizulu Law Group Ltd. at (312) 384-1920.

Our Price: FREE

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