

A Statewide Law Firm

Many of our clients never come into the office. We use technology to handle their cases virtually all across Florida.



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DellutriLawGroup.com
SEPTEMBER 2023

Growing Together With You

I Survived a Staring Contest With a Bear!

MY HEART-STOPPING ENCOUNTER IN THE TENNESSEE MOUNTAINS

Did I ever tell you about the time when I came face-to-face with a bear? It happened just a few months ago – and my heart still beats like crazy when I think about it.

After we dropped our son Nicholas off at the United States Naval Academy, Marjorie and I decided to spend a few days in the Tennessee mountains to prepare for our “new normal” as empty nesters. Of course, I took my work with me. I can’t help it!

I was making phone calls to clients when it happened: I looked up from my iPad and saw a huge bear. It was climbing the second-story deck – and looking right at me! The animal must have been one heck of a climber because the deck was 30 or 40 feet in the air.

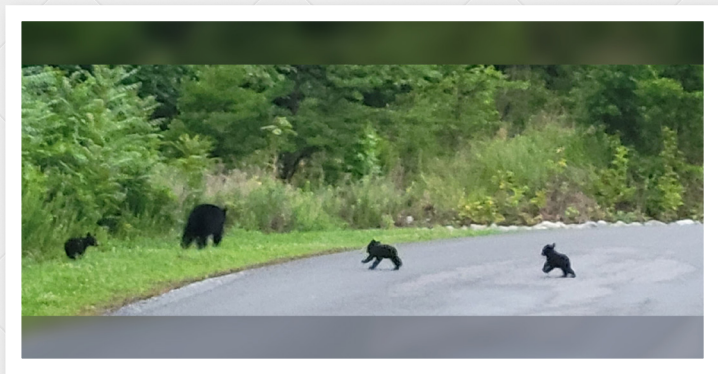
Every instinct told me to scream, “GET OFF THAT DECK!” But since I was on the phone with a client, I couldn’t start yelling at the bear just yet. Instead, I kept my cool long enough to say, “I’m sorry, an emergency just popped up – I need to go now, but I’ll call you back immediately.”

Happy with our service? We’d love to hear from you! We are always honored when our clients and associates refer their friends, family, and colleagues our way – or simply say kind things about our firm. If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know. We’re here to help!



Reach us any time at 888-889-8899 or DellutriLawGroup.com

If you’d like to leave us a review, feel free to scan the QR code. We appreciate every word!



The moment I hung up the phone, I shouted for my wife, and we started shooing the bear away. I yelled, “Hey, Bear!” and “Get down!” more times than I can count. We quickly realized the bear was trying to get at the bird feeders hanging over the side of the deck. They must have smelled tasty.

Amazingly, our scare tactics worked. I think the bear felt tag-teamed by the two of us humans – and somehow, she didn’t realize we were more scared than she was. She started climbing down the railing away from us and quickly disappeared from view.

When we lost sight of her fuzzy head and enormous paws, Marjorie and I decided it was safe to look over the rail and see what was going on. That’s when we discovered the truth: Our visitor was a mama bear, and she had cubs with her! Marjorie immediately spotted three little bear cubs following their mama into the woods. Luckily, she had her phone with her and managed to take a picture. Pretty cute, right?

In Florida, we worry about hurricanes, afternoon rains, and snowbirds. Today, I learned that Tennessee locals have different concerns. No matter how high off the ground they keep their birdfeeders, a hungry mama bear will find a way to get to them.

When I called the client back, I apologized to her for leaving the call so abruptly. She was very understanding when I explained what had happened, and she told me her husband and child are big fans of bears. She was happy to hear that nobody got hurt – especially the mama bear because she had cubs to raise!

Wishing you a bear-free fall,

-Carmen Dellutri

If you know someone who would like a copy of this newsletter, please visit this link to add them to our mailing list: DellutriLawGroup.com/resources/newsletters

WHY YOU NEED TO FIND OUT WHO OWNS THE VEHICLE AFTER A CAR CRASH

Auto accidents can be tricky. You were just sitting at a traffic light, minding your own business, when you were rear-ended. Now, you are injured, disoriented, and maybe on the way to the emergency room. The last thing you want to worry about is who owns the vehicle that hit you. Nevertheless, you must find out who owns it. Many times, the driver owns the vehicle, and if that's true, consider yourself lucky. The aftermath of your car crash will be much easier because of it.



Uber, Lyft, and rental cars make matters more complicated.

In today's world of Uber, Lyft, and other rideshare programs, along with tourist season in Florida, it has become more important than ever to know who owns the vehicle that hit you at the time of the accident. *Rental cars especially pose a unique situation.* Normally, when law enforcement investigates an accident, they will ask for a driver's license, registration, and insurance information. In a rental car accident, however, the owner of the vehicle is the rental car company, and the insurance company is the rental agency's insurer. Often, the rental car's insurance policy does not cover our client's injuries. As such, it is up to the injured individual to ask the investigating officer for not only the rental car's insurance information but also information about the driver's personal automobile insurance policy. Otherwise, we will be forced to track down the negligent driver's personal automobile insurance information. This takes more time than you can imagine, especially if the driver is from a different

state or country. In addition to causing unnecessary complications in your case, this process could delay getting the necessary treatment for your injuries. All too often, we send out letters to the at-fault driver's insurance company, and the insured has not notified their personal insurance carrier of the accident because they believed the rental car insurance company would cover it. This means we must start an insurance claim from scratch, a hurdle that could have been avoided.

After an accident, remember to ask (if you are able). If you are unfortunate enough to be in an automobile wreck, talk to the law enforcement officer and ask whether the person who hit you owns the vehicle. If not, ask the officer nicely if they can gather the at-fault driver's personal auto insurance information for you — just in case. This process may take 30 seconds, but it can save you months of aggravation in the future, particularly if you decide to file a personal injury lawsuit against the at-fault driver's insurance claim.

Testimonial

Our Clients Say It Best



"I chose Dellutri Law Group, P.A. when deciding to file bankruptcy. I found their website extremely transparent, saying exactly who they were and introducing all of their staff and attorneys. I immediately felt I made the right decision on my first call. I was made to feel at ease and was guided every step of the way. I was directed to various staff members, each with their own assignment in the filing process. Everyone I spoke with from that first call took away the fear associated with filing for bankruptcy. The in-person meeting with my attorney was casual and friendly and only took about 10 minutes to sign papers. I felt comfortable and relieved that the end was near. What an excellent team working together for their client. I enthusiastically recommend The Dellutri Law Group, P.A. Thank you all so very much, you are all amazing."

—S.R. GOOGLE REVIEW — MAY 2023

MEET ELIZABETH: DELLUTRI'S REAL-LIFE ALLIGATOR HUNTER!

A PEEK INTO OUR MARKETING DIRECTOR'S CRAZY HOBBY

In a few weeks, DLG Marketing Director Elizabeth Etnoyer will grab her flashlight, fishing pole, and bang stick and set off into the Everglades to hunt alligators. The best hunting happens in the dead of night, so she'll climb stealthily into her boat and glide off into the darkness, searching the water for sets of glowing gator eyes.



"You can't shoot or bait them like you see on TV," she explains. "You have to catch them with a fishing pole and shoot them with a stick gun! You put the bullet in the stick and pull the button to ignite it. You have to be very close to the alligator to do it – basically right on them – and that makes the sport harder. You have to have them right in your boat!"

The prospect of wrestling a gator would intimidate most people, but Elizabeth thrives on the adrenaline rush. She grew up hunting gators for fun on 40 acres of Florida marsh and regularly wins alligator harvest tags in the state's annual lottery.



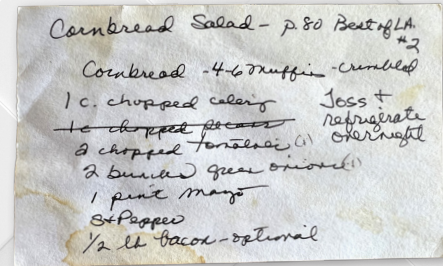
"I'm scared every time," she says. "That's why I like it!"

At home, Elizabeth has a collection of alligator hides and boots from successful hunts, and she and her three kids occasionally chow down on tail meat (it tastes like chicken). When Elizabeth isn't hunting, she stays busy reading, meditating, doing yoga, planning new experiences for her kids, and taking care of their menagerie of pets, including a snake, two hamsters, two bearded dragons, and a tailless cat named Coco.

She also works for us! Elizabeth has been our marketing director for more than seven years, taking a break in the middle to raise her children. We're thrilled to have her back handling our social media, website, blogs, video shoots, networking, and more. If you're one of our referral partners, you've probably met Elizabeth at BNI, and if you're a client, she might have a thank-you card from you hanging in her office.

"The most rewarding part of my job is reading those thank-you notes and online reviews about how we've saved someone's home or business," she says.

Next time you talk to Elizabeth, ask about her craziest alligator stories – she won't disappoint!



Aunt Linda's Cornbread Salad

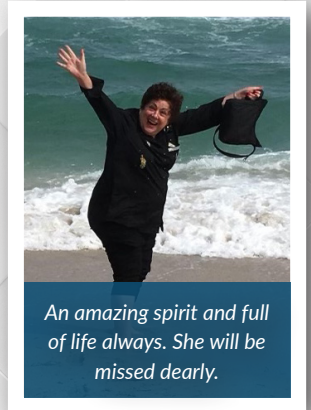
Attorney Amanda Downing shares this recipe in loving memory of her Aunt Linda.

INGREDIENTS

- 4-6 cornbread muffins, crumbled
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 2 bunches green onions
- 1 pint mayonnaise
- 1/2 lb bacon (optional)

DIRECTIONS

Toss all ingredients and refrigerate overnight.



An amazing spirit and full of life always. She will be missed dearly.

A Huge Thank-You to Our Referral Partners!

A referral is the greatest gift we can receive from a client or fellow business! Last month we had ...

- 38 referrals from friends, family, or previous clients
- 21 returning clients for new matters
- 17 referrals from other attorneys
- 5 referrals from doctors and other professionals
- **We sent out 78 referrals to our trusted referral partners.**

What's the Good News?

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

ROMANS 15:13



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HILARIOUS REAL-LIFE CRIMES

THEY SEEM TOO DUMB TO BE TRUE!



Today, we have tons of podcasts, YouTube videos, TikToks, and documentaries about true crime. It seems like we can't get enough of learning about the person behind heinous crimes and their motives. But what about the crimes you can't help but laugh at because they're almost too funny to be true?

Here are two crimes you won't believe happened because of how silly and, for the lack of a better term, dumb they are!

Don't forget to log out of Facebook!

Nicholas Wig broke into James Wood's house one night and stole his credit cards, cash, watches, and more. However, the 26-year-old thief left his Nike shoes, jeans, and a belt at the scene of the crime ... but that's not all.

When James got home, he was stunned to see his house had been broken into. But after realizing the thief had accessed Facebook on his

computer, he decided to post on Nicholas' account that he (Nicholas) had broken into his (James') home. James also shared his phone number in case anyone had any additional information.

Nicholas contacted James over text, and the two agreed to meet in person. The thief thought if he went to James' home and returned the stolen items, everything would be fine – but that's not how things played out. As soon as James spotted Nicholas walking toward his home, he called the police. When law enforcement arrived, they arrested the thief on the spot.

Monopoly money doesn't work in the real world.

Michael Fuller stopped by Walmart to purchase a vacuum cleaner and microwave for \$476. But instead of paying with real money, he decided to pay using a million-dollar note from the game Monopoly. The gentleman then demanded that he receive \$999,524 from the cashier since he would need cash back for his "purchases." The cashier called the police, and Michael was charged with attempting to obtain property by false pretenses.

Can you believe these hilarious crimes?! Do you know of any we should highlight next time? We would love to hear from you!