



Bretz Injury Law Announces 2023 Ride Like MADD Poker Run



We are excited to announce the 2023 Ride Like MADD Poker Run happening on Saturday, November 18th, in Wichita, KS! Registration will start at 9:30, taking place at Bikers Edge Powersports, 1201 E Central, Wichita, KS. Entry is \$25/hand and \$10 for additional hands with proceeds benefitting MADD of Kansas. Payouts are as follows: 25% for the best hand, 15% for the second best hand, and 10% for the worst hand. A free lunch will be served after the run. There will be a \$5 raffle and plenty of door prizes. Donations are accepted and all vehicles are welcome.

This year, we are riding in honor of Deputy Sheriff Sidnee Carter. Deputy Carter served with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office for two years before her life was tragically ended by an impaired driver.

[More Info](#)

Legal News: NHTSA Working to Require Passenger Seatbelt Warnings



The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has proposed a rule that mandates seat belt warning systems in vehicles for the right front passenger and rear seats. This requirement would apply to passenger cars, trucks, most buses, and multipurpose passenger vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. The goal is to increase seat belt usage, as it is one of the most effective ways to prevent injuries and fatalities in accidents, with nearly 43,000 people losing their lives on U.S. roads in 2021, half of whom were unbelted.

The proposed rule outlines specific requirements for rear and front seats, including visual and audible warnings when seat belts are not fastened. NHTSA estimates that these requirements could prevent approximately 300 non-fatal injuries and over 100 fatalities annually. Rear seat belt usage rates have consistently lagged behind those of front seat occupants, making this rule an effort to establish industry-wide consistency and improve seat belt use to save lives.

[Read More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/4/23 WALK LIKE MADD WICHITA, KS
- 11/18/23 KU VS K-STATE FOOTBALL LAWRENCE, KS
- 11/17/23 - 11/18/23 WICHITA TURKEY TROT WICHITA, KS
- 11/24/23 - 12/30/23 ILLUMINATIONS AT BOTANICA HUTCHINSON, KS
- 12/2/23 LIGHT UP HUTCH CHRISTMAS PARADE HUTCHINSON, KS

What's going on?

It's November! There are plenty of football games, charity/5k runs, and holiday events coming up in Kansas! Wherever you are, there's something to do! Click the button below for more events near you.

[EVENTS NEAR ME](#)



Volunteer for MADD

Volunteering for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) offers a chance to make a significant impact by advocating for change and supporting victims of drunk and impaired driving. You can help raise awareness about the dangers of impaired driving through community outreach and educational programs. Your involvement directly supports MADD's mission to prevent drunk driving and create a safer environment for all.

Moreover, volunteering for MADD allows you to provide emotional support to victims and their families, assist with legal proceedings, and participate in events that commemorate those affected by drunk driving. Your role as a volunteer contributes to a compassionate community that works together to prevent further tragedies caused by impaired driving.

Click the button below to learn more about volunteering for MADD today.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Kansas Drive to Zero

Speeding endangers lives and safety on the road. It reduces reaction time, intensifies accidents, and promotes aggressive driving. Additionally, it leads to increased fuel consumption and higher emissions. Obeying speed limits is crucial for personal safety, the well-being of others, and a cleaner environment.

[LEARN MORE](#)



5 Steps to Take After a Truck Accident in Kansas



Being in a truck accident in Kansas can be devastating. Trucks are much larger than cars and the effects can be much more severe. A fully-loaded tractor-trailer can weigh 40 tons, while the average passenger car weighs 1.5 tons. In a collision between the two, the occupants of the passenger car are more likely to face head injuries, spinal cord trauma, fractures, and other potentially life-changing injuries.

The problem is that a truck accident can be so overwhelming that victims may not know what to do first. That's why we've created a guide — to help you understand what you should do after a truck accident in Kansas to protect your health, finances, and future.

Don't hesitate. After a truck accident and injury, contact us for a free consultation. We'll listen to you, answer your questions, and start working strategically to get your medical bills paid, lost wages covered, and to provide for your future.

[READ MORE](#)

Matt's Monthly Minute

This month, we're delving into the concept of negligence, a foundational element in personal injury cases.

Negligence refers to the failure to exercise reasonable care, leading to harm or injury to another person. It serves as the foundation for determining liability in accidents and injuries. At the center of negligence is the concept of a "duty of care." This duty represents a legal obligation to act with reasonable caution to prevent harm to others. For instance, a driver on the road has a duty of care to operate their vehicle safely and responsibly, ensuring the safety of themselves and others. Proving negligence involves demonstrating that this duty of care was breached. This breach means that the responsible party did not act in a manner that a reasonable person would under similar circumstances. For example, a driver who was texting while driving might be considered to have breached their duty of care by failing to focus on the road.

Furthermore, to establish negligence, there must be an element connection between the breach of duty and the resulting harm or injury—an element known as causation. To pursue a personal injury claim based on negligence, there must be actual damages or losses resulting from the incident. These damages may include medical expenses, lost wages, pain and suffering, property damage, and more.

Understanding the concept of negligence is pivotal because it empowers individuals to seek compensation when their injuries stem from someone else's actions or negligence. Whether it's a car, truck, or motorcycle accident, a slip and fall, or any other incident resulting in injury, the ability to prove negligence often plays a central role in the success of a personal injury case.

If you believe that you've been injured due to someone else's negligence, call us today for a free consultation. We can assess the specific details of your case, determine if negligence or some other basis for liability is a factor, and guide you through the legal process to pursue the compensation you deserve.

- Matthew L. Bretz

Community News

Sedgwick County Zoo expecting two new baby elephants



Exciting news from Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kansas, as two African Elephants, Simunye and Tatia, are expecting calves. This development is vital for the sustainability of African Elephants, with 11 confirmed pregnancies across North America. The baby elephants are due in 2025, and the zoo is closely monitoring their progress to ensure a successful birth. Read More: tinyurl.com/vu3baevy

Governor Kelly announces Juneteenth as observed Kansas holiday



Kansas Governor Laura Kelly has officially designated Juneteenth as a state holiday, a move that brings the state in line with 28 other states and the District of Columbia. Juneteenth, a historically significant day, commemorates the moment in 1865 when the final enslaved Americans received news of the Emancipation Proclamation, effectively ending slavery more than two years after the Civil War's end. Read More: tinyurl.com/3mzxkhr

"Save Our Track" meeting with the Kansas State Fair board



The Save Our Track organization in Hutchinson met to prepare for an important Kansas State Fair Board meeting regarding the future of the historic racetrack on Friday, October 6th. The gathering, which drew more than 50 participants, explored the future of the racetrack. Yet, it became apparent during the meeting that the State Fair Board had not submitted any official requests for proposals, leading to uncertainty among event promoters regarding the next steps. Read More: tinyurl.com/3rh55yu

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Jessica Ediger

Jessica, our Registered Nurse on staff, has a birthday on November 3rd! When asked what her favorite cake was, she said, "strawberry cake with strawberry icing!" Have a happy birthday, Jessica!



Vickie Lohmeyer

Help us in wishing our Office Manager and Paralegal, Vickie, a very happy birthday! Her birthday lands on Sunday, November 5th. When asked what her favorite ice cream is, she said, "good ol' classic vanilla!" Happy birthday Vickie!

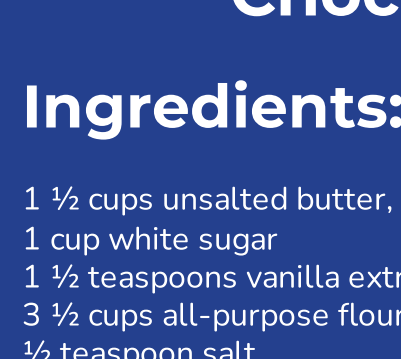
October Giveaway Winners



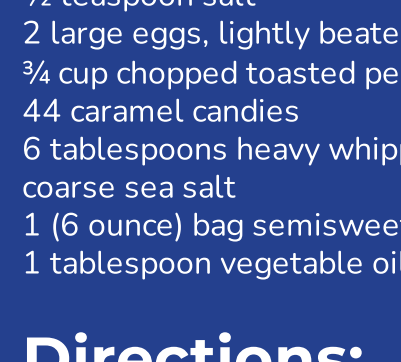
Mesa XL Solo Stove Giveaway
Winner: Diane Hirst DeCoster
Diane Hirst DeCoster won a Mesa XL Solo Stove, accessory kit, and wood pellets. She also won a s'mores making kit for 36 s'mores!



KU vs. Texas Tech Football Giveaway
Winner: Mark Guererro
Mark won a set of four tickets to the KU vs. Texas Tech game on Saturday, November 11th. He also won a set of four stainless steel KU coasters and a set of KU decals!



Robot Vacuum/Mop Giveaway
Winner: Anita Stringos
Anita won an iHome AutoVac Eclipse Pro 3-in-1 Robot Vacuum and Mop. She also won an Amazon Echo Pop and smart plug to go with it!



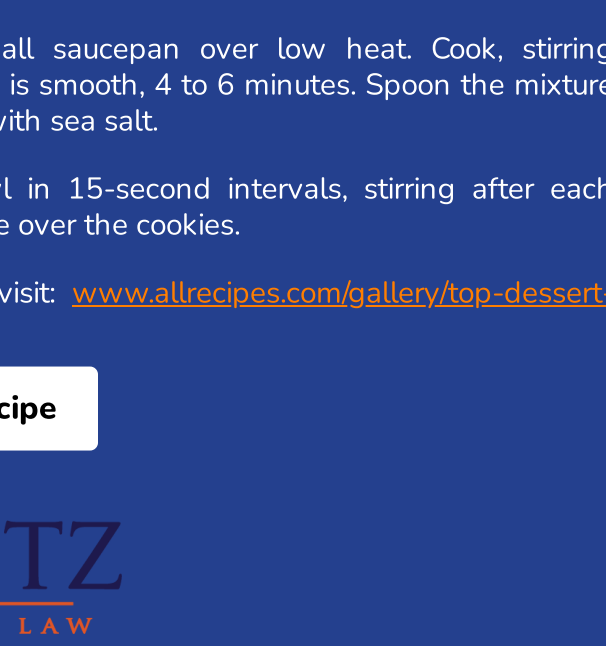
KSU vs. Iowa State Football Giveaway
Winner: Kelly Root
Kelly won a set of four tickets to the KSU vs. Iowa State game this month. She also won a bag full of K-State swag!

Giveaways are held Mondays on the Bretz Injury Law Facebook page. Visit www.facebook.com/bretzinjurylaw to enter for your chance to win!

Featured Recipe: Salted Caramel Chocolate Pecan Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/4 cup chopped toasted pecans
- 4 caramelp candies
- 6 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
- coarse sea salt
- 1 (6 ounce) bag semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil



Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line 3 to 4 baking sheets with parchment paper.

Beat butter and sugar together in a bowl using an electric mixer until pale and fluffy. Beat in vanilla extract. Reduce mixer speed to low and gradually beat in flour and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Press dough together in plastic wrap, roll dough into 1 1/2-inch balls.

Place beaten eggs in one small dish and pecans in another dish. Dip each dough ball into the eggs and roll in pecans. Place dredged balls on the prepared baking sheets, press your thumb into the center of each ball.

Bake in the preheated oven for 10 minutes. Press each cookie again, with a spoon. Return to the oven and continue baking until golden, about 10 minutes more. Cool on wire racks.

Combine caramels and heavy cream in a small saucepan over low heat. Cook, stirring constantly, until caramels are melted and mixture is smooth, 4 to 6 minutes. Spoon the mixture into the thumbprints of the cookies and sprinkle with sea salt.

Melt chocolate chips in a microwave-safe bowl in 15-second intervals, stirring after each melting, 1 to 3 minutes. Stir in oil. Drizzle chocolate over the cookies.

For more delicious November dessert recipes, visit: www.allrecipes.com/gallery/top-desserts-recipes-november/

[Full Recipe](#)

Questions? Email us at stephen@bretzinjurylaw.com

Bretz Injury Law | 3 Compound Drive
Hutchinson, KS 67502