

Injury Law + Estate Planning + Elder Law + Real Estate & Association Law + Litigation + Probate



Diane was simply running errands

at a large retail store. And then "I fell and got hurt," recalled Diane. She had slipped on the floor the store failed to maintain.

Diane didn't seek help right away. She waited a few days. With her arm swelling and in pain, she told her fiancé, "Ron, I think we need to call an attorney." When they called our firm, Paul Cavonis promptly met with them.

"He explained it to us," recalled Diane. "He said I will always be by your side. I will always answer all the questions that need to be answered. You are completely safe with me. You can call me on my personal phone anytime and I will answer it. If I don't get with you, I'll get right back with you."

"Everybody has been so pleasant," exclaimed Diane. "Not one time do you come in this office and not get a smile and feel welcome."

Diane struggled in bed at night to find

a comfortable position. Her pain often kept her awake. That's when she found comfort in a surprising place: our firm's website.

"I want them to know that there's hope. And Paul is the hope."

"There were so many nights I would sit down and watch Paul's instructional videos. Those videos were great for me to know what I'm expecting from this law firm and from the doctors I'm seeing," explained Diane. "Ron would jokingly say, are you watching the website again? From all of my heart, the videos you designed and all of your staff mean the world to me."

Ron praised the videos, too. "They were instructional, about depositions and the other things we were going through. Paul used plain language and explained what to expect, what you can say, what you shouldn't say, and so on. It helped a lot."

Diane also found support watching video testimonials

on our site from other clients. "Wow, these are real people. These aren't actors. I watched individuals, husbands and wives, motorcycle people, and especially slip and fall clients because that's what happened to me."

Though Diane suffered a traumatic injury that will never go away, she wants to share her story to help others. "If somebody does get hurt in a slip and fall, I want them to know that there's hope. And Paul is the hope. You don't have to be in pain and suffering. You don't have to be alone. You're never alone when you find this firm. You've got a family!"

Please visit dhclaw.com/testimonials to watch Diane's testimonial.



E COVID-19 Preparedness

Onwards and Upwards



While the firm is moving *onwards* in its commitment to keep our DHC community safe, it is also optimistically looking to the future and moving upwards—literally. According to partner Paul Cavonis, "Progress on the new two-story building has been excellent, particularly in light of everything that is going on. We are still on track to open around the first of the year." With his strong construction background, Paul has been moonlighting as pro-bono project manager alongside his brother and highly-skilled contractor, Doug Cavonis.

The building is designed to meet the growing needs of our clients, staff, and the community with more offices, conference rooms and a larger meeting room for seminars and events. It will be hurricane resistant with a back-up generator to protect files, equipment and provide a refuge for staff in the event they personally lose power during a storm.

The rising building in the background of the current building is a constant reminder that we are working towards the future and as with all things, these trying times shall pass. We look forward to being in the new building and reflecting on the journey with our DHC community of clients, staff and partners.



Free Legal Resource: Auto Accident Checklist

While fewer people may be on the road, there is still the risk of getting into a car accident. Just ask Director of Marketing ended while waiting at a red light on Bay distracted on his phone and hit the gas before the light turned green. A little out of sorts, she reached in her glove box for her insurance and registration which she holder. She followed it step-by-step and

mone DeLoach, Paul Cavonis and

Rep DeLoach reviewing floorplan

it helped her navigate the situation. Stay vigilant and protect yourself during and after the pandemic. Visit dhclaw.com/InsuranceHolder or contact our office at 727-308-5441 to request your holder for your glove box along with our helpful "What to Do at an Accident Scene" checklist. You can also send us a copy of your automobile policy so we can ensure you are properly covered before an accident.







PAUL R. CAVONIS

Injury Law and Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney

5 Critical Steps to Take After a Slip/Trip and Fall Accident

There are five steps you need to follow if you're injured by a slip/trip and fall incident. Police aren't typically called to these types of injuries, so it's very important that you do your part to preserve available evidence for your case.

- 1. Report the incident to a store manager. It is very important you report the incident and note the name of the person you're speaking with so additional information can be sought later. Also, try to get a copy of the report. Many businesses have a policy to not provide you a copy, so don't be alarmed should this happen.
- 2. Take pictures of the condition that caused your injury. It is important you take two different types of photographs. First, photograph the thing or substance that caused you to trip or slip. Second, take a wide-angle photo to establish where you were injured in relation to the larger, surrounding area.
- 3. Identify all witnesses. People around you who may have witnessed the incident—typically customers—are going to leave the area pretty quickly. Their testimony will be lost unless you make the effort to identify them. Try to talk with these folks and get their contact information: name, email address, and phone number.
- 4. See a doctor immediately to document your condition. The longer you delay, the longer the gap between incident and first treatment, the more difficult it will be to pursue your claim. A defense attorney, or an insurance adjuster, will take the position that if you waited, you must not have been badly injured.
- 5. Call our office immediately because there are other things we can do. For example, we could send an investigator to the scene in an effort to gather additional evidence.

If you have any questions, please contact our office or visit our website for more helpful tips to protect you and your case.





D. "Rep" DeLoach III

Estate Planning and Board Certified Elder Law Attorney

Read What Our Clients Say

Laura

Daughter of Medicaid Planning Client

It was over three years ago when I needed advice as I took on the role of caregiver for my mom. I really had no idea what the future would hold or require of me. With the help of Rep, we took care of all of my mom's finances. We got all her important papers gathered and updated and also set up a durable power of attorney.

Things were quiet for a few years but Rep was always available to answer my questions and I felt like he was on our team. When my mom fell and needed a nursing home, it was Rep's team that stepped in and guided me through that daunting process. Gloria kept me calm and was by my side at care plan meetings while Tammy got me through the Medicaid application process. *In the beginning, I really didn't know how much we needed our elder care attorney because* "I didn't know what I didn't know." Rep was there for us each step of the way. I can say they were excellent and exceeded our expectations. We highly recommend Rep and his team.



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PROUDLY A PET-FRIENDLY OFFICE

Jpecial Message

#DHCkoozie Photo Contest Goes Local

With travel at a standstill, take advantage of our beautiful surroundings and submit your local koozie pics to simone@dhclaw.com for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. We'll post your photo to our Facebook page and the photo with the most "Likes" wins! Contest closes Tuesday, September 8. Visit dhclaw.com/DHCkoozie to learn more. No koozie? No problem! Pick one up at our office on your next visit or we'll mail one to you!

To update your address preferences, add friends or family to our mailing list, or to be removed, please call Simone DeLoach at 727-308-5441 or email her at simone@dhclaw.com.



Thank You, Katherine

Katherine Cavonis is a recent Indian Rocks Christian School graduate who interned with the marketing department this summer. She is interested in pursuing a degree in marketing at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. She received experience assisting with a variety of administrative projects. According to Director of



Marketing Simone DeLoach, "Katherine was a tremendous help and a joy to work with. To make her time meaningful, I tried to share with her not only marketing theories but also the practical application—what marketing looks like in the real world, what you won't learn in the textbooks." Katherine is the youngest daughter of partner Paul Cavonis and joined her older brother and sister working at the firm this summer as well. We wish her success as she begins her new journey!















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(I) Upcoming Events

Our Favorite RECIPES

As part of our adherence to maintaining social distancing and group gathering guidelines, we have suspended all in-person seminars at the Lurie Civic Building at the SPC Seminole Campus. In the meantime, we are offering estate planning and long-term care seminars online.

Estate Planning Essentials

- Wills v. Trusts
- ▶ Probate and Probate Avoidance
- Asset Protection Strategies
- Incapacity Planning

How to Qualify for Medicaid

- Income/Asset Rules
- Healthcare Crisis Management
- Irrevocable Trust Planning
- ► VA Benefits

To register, please visit **dhclaw.com**. If you would like to be added to a list to be contacted when our in-person seminars resume, please contact Ashleigh Fisichella at **727-308-5441** or **ashleigh@dhclaw.com**.





Simone's Cold Cucumber Soup

With temperatures rising, try this summer soup to help cool you down. Variations of this cold soup, also known as tarator, are popular in the Mediterranean and areas of Eastern Europe. It is typically served as a first course instead of a salad or between meals as refreshment. It's healthy and simple to make! (serves 4)

- 2 garlic cloves, peeled, green shoots removed
- 2 cups thick plain yogurt (Greek style, or drained)
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 European cucumber, about 10" long, or 3 Persian cucumbers, dice very small
- ► ½ cup ice-cold water
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- Freshly ground pepper & salt to taste

Garnish

- Ice cubes
- Finely chopped walnuts (optional)
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Finely chopped fresh dill to taste

Place the garlic in a mortar with ½ teaspoon salt, and mash to a paste. Place the yogurt in a large bowl. Stir in the oil and garlic. Whisk in the water and the lemon juice. Add salt and freshly ground pepper to taste. Chill for one hour or longer. Meanwhile, season the cucumbers lightly with salt, and allow to drain in a colander for 15 minutes. Add to the yogurt mixture and stir together. Place an ice cube in each bowl, and ladle in the soup. Top with chopped walnuts (optional), a drizzle of olive oil if desired, and a sprinkling of dill. NOTE: If the soup is too bitter for your taste, you can lightly sprinkle sugar to cut the acidity then mix.