



SchmidtKramer

I N J U R Y L A W Y E R S

Talk to
a Lawyer.

SPRING 2011

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Thomas S. Cook chosen to moderate panel discussion

Attorney **Thomas S. Cook** has been chosen by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute to moderate a panel discussion on Pennsylvania Administrative Law Issues on June 9, 2011. This program will be given to Pennsylvania attorneys as part of their continuing educational requirements and will bring attorneys up to date on important and current legal issues.

IN SUPPORT OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER



Schmidt Kramer and staff members supported the American Cancer Society by participating in Daffodil Days. This year's Daffodil Days Campaign took place between March 31 and April 3. The daffodil is the first flower of spring and represents a symbol of hope.

Funds raised by Daffodil Days over the past 35 years have helped the mission of preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from the disease through research, education, advocacy, and patient services. Gift of Hope donations also allow the Society to anonymously deliver bouquets of daffodils to cancer patients. The hope of a cancer-free future truly does bloom through everybody's efforts.

LAW REVIEW

Kathryn E. Peters, law clerk to Scott B. Cooper, was elected as the next Executive Managing Editor of the *Widener Law Journal* for the 2011-2012 school year. As Executive Managing Editor, her primary duties include overseeing the editing and publication of the *Journal's* Annual Survey of Pennsylvania Administrative Law; organizing and coordinating the summer writing competition for prospective members; and managing the *Journal's* Senior and Survey Staff.

SCHMIDT KRAMER SUPPORTS BETHESDA MISSION

Schmidt Kramer and staff collected donations for the Bethesda Mission. **Melissa Leininger** and **Dawnn Trostle** delivered the donated items to the Bethesda Mission. The Bethesda Mission of Harrisburg is a nonprofit rescue mission that extends a helping hand to individuals by providing them with food, shelter, clothing, fellowship, and counseling. **Schmidt Kramer PC** continues to support organizations that help our community.

Distinguished Service Award given to Kim Weigand

Adams County Police Sgt. Michael Weigand was killed in a motorcycle accident two years ago. His mother, **Kim Weigand**, promised herself she would get a bill passed to bring justice to the families of emergency responders who are killed while trying to help others. She is the founder and Executive Director of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (Central PA COPS). On January 28, 2011, Kim was presented with the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PaJ) Distinguished Service Award by PaJ President **Tim Conboy** and Attorney **Scott Cooper**.



We take your family's safety and security personally.

Question OF THE QUARTER OR WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Q. Will my insurance company fully reimburse me if my car is totaled in a car accident?

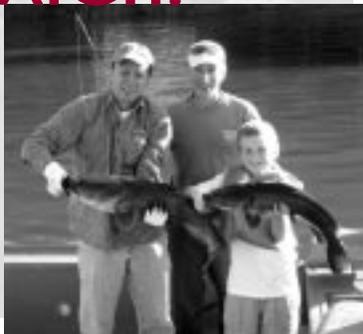
A. In most cases, you will probably be fully compensated. However, if you owe more for a loan or lease than the market value, then you need to make sure that you have what is called "GAP coverage" on your policy. If not, you may be responsible for anything over the market value because most traditional policies only reimburse you for coverage up to the market value. GAP coverage is relatively inexpensive and is important when the market value of your car is less than the amount of your loan or lease.

Dress for Success

Attorney **Melissa N. Leininger** was asked to be a member of the Dress for Success Advisory Board for 2011. Melissa actively volunteers with the organization and is also the chairperson for the Harrisburg Committee, which is currently planning their Capital Region Fundraising Breakfast.

WHAT A CATCH!

Attorney **Thomas S. Cook** and his son, **Sam**, were fishing with the Koinonia Guide Service in Marietta last Fall. Sam, age 11, caught a 41 inch catfish weighing 36 pounds.



Joe Chapman completes pro bono case

Attorney **Joe Chapman** completed a pro bono case in Dauphin County. In a contested guardianship hearing, Mr. Chapman was successful in helping a mother obtain guardianship for her autistic adult son. The case went before a hearing presided over by Judge Todd Hoover, and the mother was very pleased with the result.

WAY TO GO, TEAMS!

Joe Chapman, one of the **Schmidt Kramer** attorneys, coached in the Susquehanna Township Soccer Club in the Fall of 2010. Giving his time to support the future of local kids is important to Joe. His two sons were on the teams. He found the boys grew and matured throughout the season and, with adult guidance from the coaches and parents, have a bright future in Harrisburg, both in sports and the community.

The leadership Joe learned in sports and community activities remains one of the driving forces he continues to rely on as a lawyer. Joe said, "The guys on our soccer teams were taught responsibility—to the coaches, to the team, and to themselves. The qualities these boys learned in soccer will serve them well as they become the leaders of tomorrow."



UCP GIFT WRAP

On December 3, 2010, the staff of **Schmidt Kramer** participated in the UCP Foundation of Central PA Holiday Gift Wrap at the Capital City Mall in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. The staff wrapped all packages for a suggested minimal donation. The proceeds donated were an investment in the lives of individuals with disabilities and will benefit those individuals in Central Pennsylvania. Thanks to **Janice Harmon**, legal secretary to Terry Hyman, for organizing this very worthwhile event. The staff looks forward to participating again next year.

MEETING WITH THE JUDGES

Mrs. Sterbinsky's Linglestown Middle School gifted class met with Superior Court Judges **Correale Stevens**, **Jackie Shogan**, and **Sally Mundy** at a recent visit to the Capitol arranged by Attorney **Scott B. Cooper**.



Attorney speaks at Widener

Attorney **Joe Chapman** was asked to speak to a class of law students at Widener University in March 2011. He discussed the application of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure in "everyday life." The students and professor, Karin Durkin, asked questions, and the discussion was lively.

2011 Best Lawyers in Central Pennsylvania

Congratulations to **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** and **Gerard C. Kramer** on their recent recognition as 2011 Best Lawyers in Central Pennsylvania.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

Attorney **Terry S. Hyman** currently serves as a member of the Strategic Planning and Long Term Mission Committee of the Patient Safety Authority, an independent agency of the Commonwealth dedicated to the improvement of patient care. The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is proud to announce the Patient Safety Authority as one of its 13th Annual Cheers Awards winners and Lifetime Achievement Award recipients. The Cheers Awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have set a superlative standard of excellence for others to follow in the prevention of medication errors and adverse drug events; for more information, visit www.ismp.org/Cheers.

Attorney Leininger assists Pride Program

Melissa N. Leininger, an attorney at **Schmidt Kramer**, recently took part in the senior interviews at Middletown High School in Middletown, Pennsylvania, as part of their PRIDE program, which helps students focus on their future career pathway.

TOYS FOR TOTS

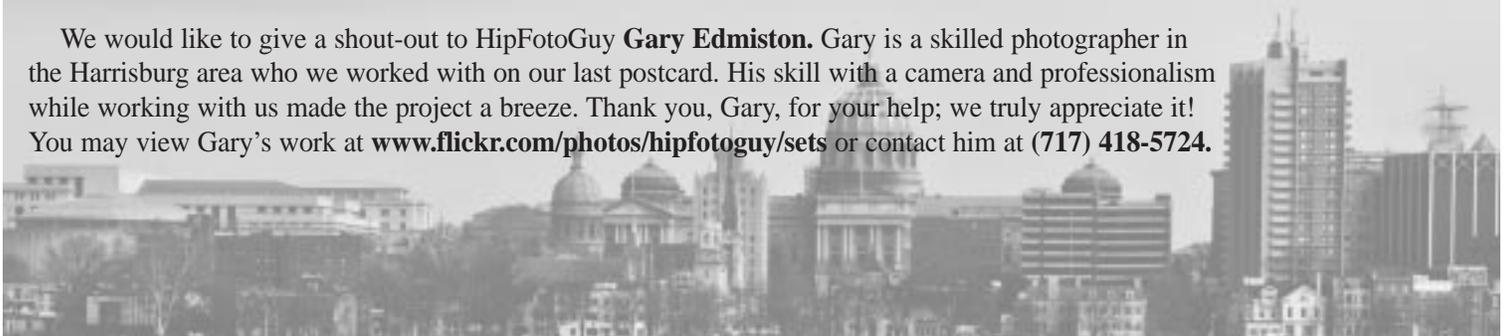
The staff of **Schmidt Kramer** again participated in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots by donating new toys to help children experience the joy of Christmas. The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November, and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. Each year, over 100,000 toys are collected and distributed to children during the holiday season. **Melissa Leininger** and **Dawnn Trostle** attended the Toys for Tots Annual Dinner on February 9, 2011, at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



Melissa Leininger, Corporal Adan Sanchez, and Dawnn Trostle

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SKYLINE

We would like to give a shout-out to HipFotoGuy **Gary Edmiston**. Gary is a skilled photographer in the Harrisburg area who we worked with on our last postcard. His skill with a camera and professionalism while working with us made the project a breeze. Thank you, Gary, for your help; we truly appreciate it! You may view Gary's work at www.flickr.com/photos/hipfotoguy/sets or contact him at (717) 418-5724.



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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for professional legal advice. For your specific situation, please consult the appropriate legal professional.

The staff corner—



Melinda Hill Valan

Everyone at **Schmidt Kramer** would like to welcome **Melinda “Mindy” Hill Valan** to the firm. Mindy’s first day at Schmidt Kramer was February 7, 2011, as a paralegal working with Scott B. Cooper. Mindy lives in Lititz, Pennsylvania, with her husband and three children.

BIRTHDAYS



The following birthdays have been celebrated at Schmidt Kramer: **Jennifer Kalonik**, November 17; **Ryan Mellinger**, November 13; **Melissa Leininger**, January 1; **Thomas S. Cook**, January 22; **Dawnn Trostle**, January 31; **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.**, February 15; **Melinda Hill Valan**, March 16; and **Scott B. Cooper**, March 20; HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE!



WELCOME, LITTLE ONES

Congratulations on the following births: **Ashley Burris**, legal assistant to Gerard C. Kramer, gave birth to **Lily Ann** on November 1, 2010; **Jennifer Garcia**, legal assistant to Charles E. Schmidt Jr., gave birth to **Ameena Rose** on December 27, 2010; and **Jessica Niblett**, receptionist, gave birth to **Xander Snow** on February 15, 2011.



Lily Ann



Ameena Rose

ANNUAL UCP GOLF TOURNAMENT

Schmidt Kramer will sponsor the 25th Annual UCP/Schmidt Kramer Golf Tournament. The golf tournament will be held at the Carlisle Country Club on Monday, August 8, 2011. The staff of Schmidt Kramer is excited to again volunteer their time for the day to raise money for United Cerebral Palsy of Central Pennsylvania. The firm is looking forward to another record-breaking year!



Xander Snow