



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

Talk to
a Lawyer.

SPRING 2012

Brought to you by
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Hot coffee screening

On the evening of Wednesday, February 29, the **Harrisburg Student Association** and **Schmidt Kramer PC** hosted a special screening of "Hot Coffee: Is Justice Being Served?" The event began with a cocktail reception to honor Schmidt Kramer Partner **Scott Cooper**, a 1993 graduate of Widener Law's Harrisburg campus. Scott attended the reception with his wife and children. Members of the firm also attended. The screening was followed by a live question-and-answer session with the film's director, **Susan Saladoff**, and the General Counsel to the American Tort Reform Association (ATRA), **Victor Schwartz**.



Auto Accidents

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Head and Brain Injuries

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Kids' Chance of PA

Do you know a student whose parent was seriously injured or killed as a result of an accident at their job? If so, that child may be eligible to apply for a scholarship through Kids' Chance of PA. Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 25 and enrolled in an accredited post-secondary educational institution. The mission of Kids' Chance of PA is to provide scholarship grants for college and vocational education to children of Pennsylvania workers who have been killed or seriously injured in work-related accidents resulting in financial need. To apply, download a scholarship application from Kids' Chance's Web site: <http://www.kidschanceofpa.org/pdf/scholarship-application-2012.pdf>; call the Kids' Chance office at (610) 970-9143; or e-mail at info@kidschanceofpa.org. The deadline is April 16, 2012.



Schmidt Kramer supports Bethesda Mission

Schmidt Kramer and their staff collected donations for the Bethesda Mission. Attorney **Melissa Leininger** and Office Manager **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.



We take your family's safety and security personally.

STAFF CORNER

Everyone at **Schmidt Kramer** would like to welcome **Jessica L. Kurtz** to the firm. Jessica's first day at Schmidt Kramer was January 23, 2012. She is working as a part-time attorney with Attorney **Gerard C. Kramer** and Attorney **Scott B. Cooper**. Jessica graduated from Washington & Jefferson College and the Penn State Dickinson School of Law. She enjoys playing volleyball, spending time with her family and friends, and cuddling with her cat, Lucy. Jessica is originally from Johnstown and currently resides in Harrisburg, Pa.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The following staff members had birthdays since our last newsletter: **Jennifer Kalonik** on Nov. 17; **Maureen Sullivan** on Dec. 27; **Melissa Leininger** on Jan. 1; **Thomas Cook** on Jan. 22; **Dawnn Trostle** on Jan. 31; **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** on Feb. 15; **Melinda Valan** on March 16; and **Scott B. Cooper** on March 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE!



DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Schmidt Kramer was a sponsor of the 2011 Dress for Success "Little Black Dress Gala" held on Friday, Oct. 28, 2011, at the Harrisburg Hilton. **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** and his wife **Joyce**, **Scott B. Cooper** and his wife **Barbara**, **Melissa N. Leininger** and her husband **Bryan**, and **Laurie Kile, M.D.**, attended the event on behalf of Schmidt Kramer. The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support, and the career development tools to help women thrive in the workplace and in life.



Take it to the net

Over the winter, Attorney **Joe Chapman** coached two different teams in the Susquehanna Township Youth Basketball Association. In wins and losses, the success was varied, but more importantly, the investment of Joe's time was an investment in the future successes of the boys he coached. "We had a lot of good players and a bunch of genuinely nice kids," Joe said.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Schmidt Kramer will sponsor the 26th Annual UCP/Schmidt Kramer Golf Tournament. The golf tournament will be held at the Carlisle Country Club on Monday, Aug. 6, 2012. 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. Come out and support a great cause.

NEW ARRIVALS.....

Attorney **Chuck Schmidt**'s son, **Andrew**, and Andrew's wife, **Meaghan**, welcomed **Ryan Stephen Schmidt** into the world on Jan. 14, 2012, at 2:09 p.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds 1 ounce, and measured 20½ inches long. Office Manager **Dawnn Trostle**'s daughter, **Stephanie**, and Stephanie's husband, **Josh**, welcomed the arrival of twin little boys on Jan. 11, 2012. **Caydon Trostle Reynolds** was first up at 11:31 p.m.; he weighed 6 pounds and was 18¾ inches long. **Grayson Neil Reynolds** followed shortly after at 11:32 p.m.; his weight was 5 pounds 3 ounces, and his length was 18 inches.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL!



Caydon Trostle Reynolds & Grayson Neil Reynolds



Ryan Stephen Schmidt

In support of cancer research

Schmidt Kramer and its staff members again supported the American Cancer Society by participating in Daffodil Days. This year's Daffodil Days Campaign took place between March 19, 2012, and March 25, 2012. 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 contributed to 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.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The staff of **Schmidt Kramer** once again participated in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program, 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.



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ATTORNEY NEWS—



Schmidt Kramer ranks as one of the best law firms in the nation. Schmidt Kramer was recently named one of the 2011-2012 “Best Law Firms” by *Best Lawyers* and *U.S. News & World Report*. The firm was given awards in three categories this year for Harrisburg Tier 1.

On Sat., Feb. 11, 2012, Partner **Scott Cooper** spoke at the PA Progressive Summit 2012 on how the rights of injured victims are under attack and threatened by proposed legislation. This is one of the nation’s largest gatherings of progressive thinkers and was held February 10–12 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in downtown Philadelphia.

On Feb. 27, 2012, Senior Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** was a speaker at the PBI Seminar “Protecting Our Children” in Philadelphia, Pa.

On the Jan. 27, 2012, evening news, Partner **Scott Cooper** was interviewed and appeared on the local Harrisburg CBS affiliate (WHP-TV 21) to discuss insurance fraud and how to prevent it.

Senior Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** conducted a television interview on Jan. 10, 2012, to discuss the filing of a Motion to Intervene involving the Second Mile’s insurance company, Federal Insurance, and Mr. Sandusky. The insurance company for the Second Mile is attempting to avoid paying any civil claims, and the firm is intervening in order to protect all of the victims and make sure there is insurance coverage.

On Dec. 23, 2011, Senior Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** discussed with WHP-TV 21 in Harrisburg the filing of the second known civil lawsuit in the Penn State scandal.

The Dec. 20, 2011, edition of *The Legal Intelligencer* contained comments from Partner **Scott Cooper** about auto insurance law and the need to increase mandatory minimum liability limits in Pennsylvania.

On Oct. 24, 2012, Partner **Scott Cooper** testified before the Pennsylvania House Judiciary Committee against a proposed piece of legislation aimed at making several changes to the way venues are selected for civil lawsuits. He argued that the changes are unconstitutional, inconsistent with established rulings on the topic, and unnecessary.

On Nov. 15, 2012, Partner **Scott Cooper** testified before the Pennsylvania Senate Banking and Insurance Committee in support of a bill aimed at increasing the mandatory automobile liability limits and property damage in Pennsylvania, which have been in place since 1974.

In October 2011, Schmidt Kramer’s **Tom Cook** gave a lecture to the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Orthopedic Society in Philadelphia, Pa. Tom spoke to approximately one hundred doctors about Pennsylvania Workers’ Compensation paperwork and terms.

On Sat., Nov. 19, 2011, Partner **Scott Cooper** participated in Wills for Heroes at the Widener University School of Law in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Wills for Heroes are volunteers who spend time helping draft wills, powers of attorney, and living wills for first responders and their families free of charge.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 2011, Senior Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** participated in the 2011 Chocolate Tour, a 67-mile bike ride to Support Cancer Research to Find the Cure. Funds raised supported cancer research to find the cure at Penn State Hershey Medical Center.