



**SchmidtKramer**  
INJURY LAWYERS

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a Lawyer.

**MARCH 2013**

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***\$1.7 million settlement***

Attorney **Terry S. Hyman**, one of Schmidt Kramer's senior litigators, has settled a vehicle pedestrian accident case for \$1.7 million subject to court approval. The incident occurred at a construction site, where a tractor-trailer delivering supplies to the site ran over one of the supervisors who was standing next to a pickup truck.



**Large verdict for Schmidt Kramer**

Schmidt Kramer won a big verdict in January of this year. **D. Joseph Chapman** was the attorney who handled the trial. On January 17, 2013, one of Schmidt Kramer's clients was awarded over \$4,000,000 in a case in which he was blinded when he was hit by a shotgun blast from another hunter, who failed to identify his target. This was an important verdict because the judge was able to do two things with his decision. First, he communicated to two very good people that their losses were something that those of us on the outside could appreciate and value. Our client was a 51-year-old man who lost his sight because a convicted felon—who should not have even possessed a gun—went hunting illegally and broke, with impunity, the most fundamental rule in hunting:



Identify your target before you pull the trigger. The judge accepted our client's financial loss that he suffered, which was approximately \$1,034,000 (in lost income), but listened closely to the evidence of less tangible losses. When our client broke down on the stand because his daughter would end up walking him down the aisle at her wedding instead of the other way around, the judge was listening. When our client could not

keep it together because of how emasculating it was for him not to be able to provide financially for his family, the judge was listening. It was facts like these that the judge cited to support the \$2,000,000 award for noneconomic damages. Second, the judge wanted to send a message. Union County is a hunting county. Many of the residents hunt there, and people from outside the area come to Union County to hunt. It was attorney Chapman's impression, from the judge's statements as he rendered his decision, that he wanted to send a message to the people in Union County to protect them in their sport. The rules in place to restrict gun possession for people convicted of crimes are not to be broken. Hunting is serious and

you have to identify your target before you shoot. When you turn your back on the rules that are set to provide safety in a sport, you risk being an example. Here, the \$1,000,000 punitive damage award sends that message loud and clear. This case is another example of the serious attention Schmidt Kramer lawyers give to their clients' cases, and to what the legal case means in the greater context of their lives.

***We take your family's safety and security personally.***

# ATTORNEY NEWS

◆ Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** accepted an award on behalf of **Schmidt Kramer**, which has invested in the mission of United Cerebral Palsy for 19 years through their generous gifts and support. As a strong corporate partner, Schmidt Kramer sponsors the annual golf tournament and the annual Attitudes Essay Contest. They also give back to UCP through significant volunteer support that makes the UCP/Schmidt Kramer Golf Tournament possible. Their staff also volunteers to distribute the essay awards in the schools and volunteers for the Holiday Gift Wrap booth. Schmidt Kramer continues to make a commitment to invest in the lives of individuals with disabilities in Central Pennsylvania.



◆ Schmidt Kramer partner and PaJ President **Scott B. Cooper** with Pennsylvania's first elected female attorney general, **Kathleen Granahan Kane**, at a private reception celebrating her inauguration.

◆ Schmidt Kramer attorney **Thomas S. Cook** marched and played the banjo-mandolin in the 2013 Mummers Day Parade on New Year's Day in Philadelphia, Pa. Tom is a member of the Greater Overbrook String Band, which has been participating in the annual Philadelphia event since 1931. Tom reports that the 4-hour, 6-mile parade was a lot of fun, but a lot of work as well. Tom appeared with the band in Atlantic City in February and will be playing with them in State College in June before starting work on next year's New Year's Day Parade.



*Photo taken by Jayanth Devasundaram*

◆ Schmidt Kramer partner **Scott B. Cooper** is the contributing editor of the Third Edition of the Treatise on the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law, Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Insurance: An Analysis of the Financial Responsibility Law, released December 2012.

◆ On December 9, 2012, Schmidt Kramer partner **Scott B. Cooper** was a guest on the Harrisburg affiliate WHP-TV Channel 21 "Face the State," speaking on why victims need to be protected from anti-victim legislation. To watch the video of the show, go to the following link: [www.whptv.com/Content/FaceTheState/story/Face-The-State-Tort-Reform/d2YnsVAcZ027kz6MDVP5QA.csp](http://www.whptv.com/Content/FaceTheState/story/Face-The-State-Tort-Reform/d2YnsVAcZ027kz6MDVP5QA.csp).

◆ On November 14, 2012, partner **Scott B. Cooper** was an invited guest and speaker for the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association's monthly Lunch & Learn on "Joint & Several Liability—How Has It Affected Your Practice?"



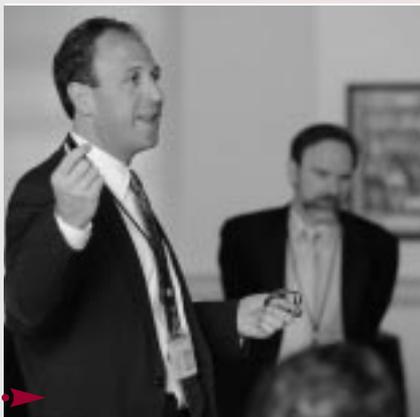
**Schmidt Kramer** has offices located at **209 State Street, Harrisburg, PA**, and **27 S. 34th Street, Camp Hill, PA**. Having offices on both the East and West Shores allows us to better serve our clients.

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◆ On Sunday, February 10, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner **Scott B. Cooper** participated in a Spin-A-Thon to benefit Save a Child's Heart Foundation. Scott participated in spinning at the Harrisburg JCC for three hours, comprised of four segments of 45 minutes each with 5-minute breaks to raise money for the Foundation.

◆ Partner **Scott B. Cooper** participated in an End Distracted Driving Program at a high school in Exton, Pennsylvania. If you are interested in having a program at your high school, contact Scott at [scooper@schmidtkramer.com](mailto:scooper@schmidtkramer.com) or contact **Xenia Scott** at the Pennsylvania Association of Justice at [xenia@pajustice.org](mailto:xenia@pajustice.org). To learn more about the dangers of distracted driving, go to [enddd.org](http://enddd.org).



◆ **Schmidt Kramer** and their staff collected donations for the Bethesda Mission. Attorney **Melissa Leining** and office manager **Dawn 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.



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



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Schmidt Kramer** continues to sponsor the Annual United Cerebral Palsy/Schmidt Kramer Golf Tournament. **Gerard C. Kramer**, a partner at Schmidt Kramer, serves as chair of the Golf Tournament. UCP is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities. We hope you join us for a great day of golf at the 27th Annual UCP/Schmidt Kramer Golf Tournament on Monday, August 5, 2013, at the Carlisle Country Club, Carlisle, Pa. Come out and support a great cause. For more information, go to [www.ucpcentralpa.org](http://www.ucpcentralpa.org).



## Schmidt Kramer named among the "Best Law Firms" for 2013

**Schmidt Kramer** has been named among the "Best Law Firms" by U.S. News Media Group and Best Lawyers. The *U.S. News—Best Lawyers* "Best Law Firms" rankings are based on a rigorous evaluation process that includes the collection of client and lawyer evaluations, peer review from leading attorneys in their field, and review of additional information provided by law firms as part of the formal submission process. Partners **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.**, **Gerard C. Kramer**, and **Scott B. Cooper** have also been selected as Best Lawyers in America.

# STAFF CORNER

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following staff members had birthdays since our last newsletter: **Amyra Wagner** on December 17; **Maureen Sullivan** on December 27; **Melissa Leininger** on January 1; **Thomas Cook** on January 22; **Dawnn Trostle** on January 31; and **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** on February 15.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE!**

### HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY:

Special birthday wishes to **Ryan Stephen Schmidt**, who turned 1 year old on January 14, 2013. Ryan is the son of **Meaghan** and **Andrew Schmidt** and the grandson of partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.**



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Also happy birthday to twins **Caydon Trostle Reynolds** and **Grayson Neal Reynolds**, who turned 1 year old on January 11, 2013. Caydon and Grayson are the sons of **Stephanie** and **Josh Reynolds** and the grandsons of office manager **Dawnn E. Trostle**.

### NEW ARRIVAL!

Congratulations to attorney **Melissa N. Leininger** and her husband, **Byran**, regarding the arrival of their daughter, **Sadie Elizabeth Leininger**, on February 12, 2013, at 1:01 p.m. She weighed in at 6 pounds 11 ounces.



### READ ABOUT:

- \$1.7 million settlement
- Large verdict for Schmidt Kramer
- Attorney news
- Schmidt Kramer named among the "Best Law Firms"
- Mark your calendars!
- Staff corner

### WEDDING NEWS!

**Maureen Sullivan**, legal assistant to **Scott B. Cooper, Esq.**, became engaged to **John Maddaloni**. An April 19, 2013, wedding is planned, with a honeymoon in Montego Bay, Jamaica, following.

