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MAY/JUNE 2013

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unless you do.*

**The 27th annual
UCP/SchmidtKramer
Golf Tournament**

Trial Lawyers Care featured an article regarding partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** and Schmidt Kramer's work for United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). Pennsylvania trial lawyer Charles E. Schmidt Jr., along with the entire staff at Schmidt Kramer law firm, is the sponsor of an annual golf tournament that benefits United Cerebral Palsy of Central Pennsylvania. Schmidt's involvement with UCP started in 1992 as a way to support a friend's daughter who has cerebral palsy.

"I selected UCP because I knew the child's father. He used to bring her to see the Harrisburg Senators AA team. My desire was initially a one-shot event," said Schmidt, who is the current president of the Central Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

That one shot led to what has grown into a 22-year relationship with UCP. Approximately six months after the first event, UCP asked if the Schmidt Kramer firm would be interested in taking over the annual golf tournament. Schmidt agreed because it was an extension of his firm's mission to help others.

"Helping others is a reward in itself. Hopefully we have made a positive impact on the community," said Schmidt. The UCP/SchmidtKramer Golf Tournament raised \$600,000 for UCP over the past 22 years. This event continues to grow, and at this point, the firm's goal is to raise a million dollars. Schmidt says people are eager to help and support the cause once they become aware of the organization.

The 27th annual UCP/SchmidtKramer Golf Tournament will take place on **Monday, August 5, 2013.**



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Community Service Award!

Pennsylvania Association for Justice president **Scott B. Cooper, Esquire**, announced that PAJ recently presented its Community Service Award to **Muriel's Breath of Life**, a foundation established to help people suffering from cystic fibrosis. He discussed other association matters, including the latest association name-change news, upcoming auto law CLEs in Harrisburg and Philadelphia, Harrisburg legislation, and the ever-growing Future Leaders Section's involvement in the "End Distracted Driving" public outreach campaign.



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ATTORNEY NEWS

◆ Schmidt Kramer attorney **Thomas S. Cook** has been certified as a specialist in the practice of workers' compensation law by the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Section on Workers' Compensation Law as authorized by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Mr. Cook has been representing claimants in workers' compensation and Social Security cases for over 30 years. He was a former director of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation and a former adjunct professor of law at Widener and Temple Law Schools.

◆ Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** was the moderator and panelist for the PBI seminar "Lights, Camera, Evidence" on February 22, 2013, in Mechanicsburg, Pa.

◆ On March 2, 2013, partner **Scott B. Cooper** participated in and presented a workshop at the Keystone Progress Progressive Summit at the Harrisburg Hilton about "Holding Big Business Accountable: The Truth About Tort Reform." The workshop focused on the Chamber of Commerce and the far right trying to pass laws that cap damages and immunize corporations from being held accountable for their conduct. This session demonstrated how to counter those efforts and advocate for progressive pro-consumer and pro-victim legislation.

◆ On March 22, 2013, on behalf of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ), president and Schmidt Kramer partner **Scott B. Cooper** presented an award for Service and Leadership for Progressive Causes to Mike Crossey, the president of PSEA.



◆ On March 23, 2013, attorney **Jessica Kurtz** participated in the Wills for Heroes program that was held at the Widener Law School. Wills for Heroes is a pro bono program that provides wills and other estate planning documents to first responders and their spouses, free of charge. The goal of the program is to help first responders ensure that their families' legal affairs are in order in the event tragedy strikes in the course of their inherently dangerous jobs.



◆ As Pennsylvania recognized April as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month," Schmidt Kramer partner and Pennsylvania Association for Justice president **Scott B. Cooper** joined Attorney General Kathleen Granahan Kane, Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, Senator Rob Teplitz, and Representative Brandon Neuman to emphasize the need to continue to educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving. Attorney Joel Feldman, father of a victim of distracted driving, discussed the repercussions of this dangerous habit at a Capitol news conference on April 9, 2013.



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.

If you've been injured, Don't Wait

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◆ On April 17, 2013, partner **Scott B. Cooper** was an invited guest speaker at Widener University School of Law's Symposium in Harrisburg on "Perspectives on Mass Torts Litigation." Scott was a speaker and presented on an expert panel covering "Keystone State Civil Justice Issues."

◆ On April 19, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner and PAJ president **Scott B. Cooper** participated in the New Jersey Association for Justice's Boardwalk Series Program in Atlantic City, N.J. Scott was a speaker at the Personal Injury Spring Training for Trial Lawyers on "Issues on Social Media Discovery in Personal Injury Cases."

◆ Attorney **D. Joseph Chapman** spoke on "How to Take Effective Direct- and Cross-Examination Testimony" at a PBI seminar on Tuesday, April 23, 2013.

◆ On April 25, 2013, partner **Scott B. Cooper** spoke at the Pennsylvania Association for Justice's 31st Annual Big Auto Program in Pittsburgh, Pa. His topic was "Recent Developments in Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Coverage and Insurance Bad Faith."

◆ On April 30, 2013, partner **Scott B. Cooper** and attorney **Jessica L. Kurtz** discussed distracted driving awareness in front of over 500 students at Richland Senior High School in Johnstown, Pa., and over 30 people at the Windber Research Institute in Windber, Pa.



◆ On May 17, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner and Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ) president **Scott B. Cooper** spoke at the PAJ 31st Annual Big Auto Program in Harrisburg, Pa., with an emphasis on "Underinsured Motorist/Uninsured Motorist and Bad Faith Issues."

◆ On May 30, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner and Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ) president **Scott B. Cooper** spoke at the PAJ 31st Annual Big Auto Program at the Philadelphia Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pa., with an emphasis on "Underinsured Motorist/Uninsured Motorist and Bad Faith Issues."

◆ On June 12, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner and Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ) president **Scott B. Cooper** will be speaking at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's Annual General Practitioners Update in Philadelphia, Pa., on "Liens in Civil Cases with a Special Emphasis on the Newly Passed SMART Medicare Act."

◆ On June 26, 2013, Schmidt Kramer partner and Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ) president **Scott B. Cooper** will be speaking at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's Annual General Practitioners Update in Mechanicsburg, Pa., on "Liens in Civil Cases with a Special Emphasis on the Newly Passed SMART Medicare Act."

◆ Partner **Charles E. Schmidt Jr.** will speak on "Trial Practice" at a PBI seminar on July 30, 2013.

◆ Partner **Scott B. Cooper** congratulating Harrisburg lobbyist Lou Crocco on winning the 2013 NCAA Schmidt Kramer March Madness competition.



◆ Partners **Gerard C. Kramer** and **Scott B. Cooper** have been selected by *Central Penn Business Journal* as Central Pennsylvania's Top Lawyers.

◆ Schmidt Kramer attorney **Thomas S. Cook's** law review article on Workers' Compensation Mental Disability Claims in Volume 62 of the *Notre Dame Law Review* is cited under "selected law review articles" in "West's Workers' Compensation Law and Practice." This is the recognized scholarly text on Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation.

◆ In spring 2013, PBI Press published partner and PAJ president **Scott B. Cooper's** book on civil depositions: *A to Z of Civil Depositions*. To order the book, go to the following:

www.legalspan.com/pbi/catalog.asp?ItemID=20130122-229194-91608



STAFF CORNER

THANK YOU, SCHMIDT KRAMER STAFF



WELCOME TIFFANY!

Everyone at Schmidt Kramer would like to welcome **Tiffany Herb** to the firm. Tiffany's first day at Schmidt Kramer was April 8, 2013. She will be working as a paralegal with partner **Scott B. Cooper**.

Tiffany is a graduate of HACC with a degree in paralegalism. She enjoys reading, watching movies, football, and spending time with her family. She resides in Millersburg, Pa., with her husband, Kyle.



Schmidt Kramer celebrated Administrative Professionals Day on Monday, April 22, 2013. Thanks so much to our staff for all their hard work, professionalism, and dedication throughout the year. *We appreciate all they do at Schmidt Kramer!*

WEDDING NEWS!



Maureen Sullivan, legal assistant to partner **Scott B. Cooper**, and **John Maddaloni** were married on April 19, 2013, by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin. Family and friends traveled from across the country to celebrate their special day.

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DRESS FOR SUCCESS CAPITAL AREA LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST



Schmidt Kramer was a Bronze Sponsor at the Dress for Success Breakfast held on March 27, 2013, at the Central Pennsylvania College Convention Center at Central Pennsylvania

College. **Melissa Leininger**, **Scott Cooper**, **Maureen Sullivan**, **Sherrie Mehring**, and **Jessica Kurtz** attended the event on behalf of Schmidt Kramer. Special guests of Schmidt Kramer were Senator Rob Teplitz and Anne Gingrich Cornick, who is running for Dauphin County Judge. 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.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

The following staff members had birthdays since our last newsletter: **Scott B. Cooper** on March 20; **Vellia Gaston** on April 13, and **Terry S. Hyman** on April 15.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
EVERYONE!**

READ ABOUT:

- **The 27th Annual UCP/SchmidtKramer Golf Tournament**
- **Attorney news**
- **Staff corner**