

Attorney Selected as Leading Lawyer and Boss of the Year



Gregory R. Grant

The Firm is pleased to announce that Greg Grant, an attorney in our Traverse City office, was recently selected as one of the region’s leading attorneys by *Traverse City Business News* magazine. Following a survey of all the attorneys in the area, Mr. Grant was chosen as one of the top five best attorneys in the area of litigation. He is featured in the publication’s December issue.

In other news, Maureen Jones, a legal assistant in our Traverse City office, nominated Mr. Grant for the Grand Traverse Association of Legal Professionals coveted Boss of the Year award. On nominating him, Ms. Jones explains, “Greg’s ability to get the utmost out of discovery, write motions, and find pertinent

case law swiftly, simply amazes me. As busy as he is, he is never too busy if I have questions. I look forward to going to work every day and am grateful to work for such a considerate and hard-working attorney.”

At the association’s biggest event of the year, the 44th Annual Bosses Night Recognition Banquet, it was announced that Mr. Grant was selected to receive the Boss of Year award.

He focuses his practice on municipal law, insurance law, and general civil litigation. Earlier this year he was selected as a 2013 Rising Star attorney by Michigan Super Lawyers.

Mr. Grant can be reached at (231) 922-1888 or ggrant@cnda-law.com.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Wishing you a beautiful holiday season
and a New Year filled with
health, happiness, and prosperity.*

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Be Prepared if Involved in Auto Accident



Robert L. Blamer

Winter is here and an increase in automobile accidents often happens during the winter months. Robert L. Blamer, a partner in our Livonia office, has created a useful Auto Accident Information Form (page 3) that contains important information you should be aware of should you ever become involved in an automobile accident.

Keep the form in your vehicle for easy reference. Naturally your ability to complete the form will depend upon the severity of your accident, including your physical and mental state. Fill in the information to the best of your ability at the time of the accident and finish it as soon as you are able.

While a majority of the Firm's work concentrates on the defense side of the law, we realized decades ago that a plaintiff group was necessary to make the Firm the full-service one that it is today.

Mr. Blamer, head of the plaintiff group, focuses his practice on helping injured people in many types of negligence actions, workers' compensation claims and social security disability claims. He has handled, tried and resolved cases with tremendous success not only in Michigan, but throughout the country.

His trial experience ranges from representing automobile negligence victims to complex professional negligence matters, products liability actions and complicated plane crash matters.

He can be reached at (734) 261-2400 or rblamer@cmda-law.com.

Attorney Appointed as Hearing Panelist by Attorney Discipline Board



Karen M. Daley

Karen Daley, an attorney in our Livonia office, was recently appointed as a hearing panelist by the Attorney Discipline Board (ADB). The ADB is the adjudicative arm of the Michigan Supreme Court and is responsible for supervising and disciplining Michigan attorneys.

The ADB appoints hearing panels composed of three volunteer attorneys to conduct the trial-level proceedings in which the Attorney Grievance Commission has filed a formal complaint alleging that a member of the State Bar of Michigan has committed misconduct. The ADB also hears pe-

titions for review of decisions by a hearing panel and performs other duties. A decision of the ADB may be appealed to the Michigan Supreme Court.

Ms. Daley is the head of CMDA's appellate division. She focuses her practice on writing briefs for submission to all levels of state and federal courts, arguing cases in all levels of state and federal courts of appeals, performing research for all areas of law handled by the Firm, and keeping up-to-date with state and federal judicial decisions and laws that can affect clients of the Firm. Earlier this year she was selected as a 2013 Rising Star attorney by Michigan Super Lawyers.

She can be reached at (734) 261-2400 or kdaley@cmda-law.com.

Attorneys Present on FOIA and OMA



Haider Kazim

Haider Kazim, a partner in our Traverse City office, and Andrew Brege, an attorney in our Grand Rapids office, recently conducted a municipal law training session for the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA). The training session, held in Escanaba, was well-attended by MMRMA members from 27 different municipalities, many from the Upper

Peninsula.

Mr. Kazim and Mr. Brege provided training on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and discussed how to avoid violations of FOIA and the costly litigation that comes along with

it. They also presented on the Open Meetings Act (OMA) and explained the requirements of the laws, the procedures you must follow in implementing them and the exceptions you may invoke in appropriate circumstances.

When dealing with FOIA and OMA, it is important for municipalities to be prepared to deal with the numerous legal questions that arise. If you have any questions or concerns regarding FOIA or OMA, or if your municipality is interested in a similar seminar, please contact Mr. Kazim at (231) 922-1888 or hkazim@cmda-law.com or contact Mr. Brege at (616) 975-7470 or abrege@cmda-law.com.



Andrew J. Brege

AUTO ACCIDENT INFORMATION FORM

At the Accident:

- Try to remain calm and thoughtful. If you or anyone in your car is injured, stay in the car unless there is danger of fire or another accident.
- Use your cell phone to get help from the police and medical personnel.
- Try not to move any vehicles until police arrive- unless it creates a greater danger of injury.
- Avoid making statements about responsibility to other drivers, witnesses, the police or insurance representatives without talking to your own insurance representative. Assist the police with their official report. Confirm that you and passengers wore seat belts.
- Use the following form to obtain accident information.

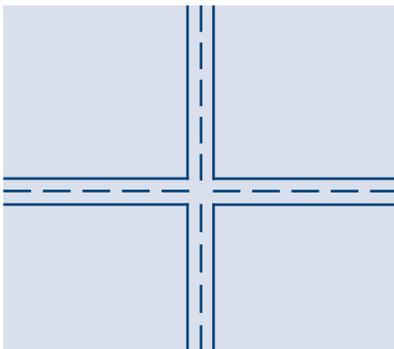
| | VEHICLE 1 | VEHICLE 2 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Date and Time _____ | | |
| Driver's name and phone number _____ | | |
| Driver's address _____ | | |
| Driver's license number _____ | | |
| Vehicle tag numbers _____ | | |
| Vehicle makes and models _____ | | |
| Vehicle 17-digit ID numbers _____ | | |
| Insurance companies _____ | | |
| Insurance policy numbers _____ | | |
| Witness names and phone numbers _____ | | |
| Witness addresses _____ | | |
| Statements made by witnesses or other drivers _____ | | |

Accident Scene Notes

Fill in the accident scene diagram below.

Accident location _____
 Road conditions _____
 Traffic conditions _____
 Weather conditions _____
 Your speed before accident _____
 Other driver's speed before accident _____

Did your car skid? How many feet? _____
 Did other car skid? How many feet? _____
 Impact location on your car _____
 Impact location on other car _____
 Anything else relevant _____



- If you or your passengers receive injuries, insist on being transported to a hospital in an ambulance. In all instances, obtain medical treatment immediately. Tell medical personnel about everything you feel may be physically wrong.
- Report the accident to your insurance agent immediately. Do not speak to the other driver's insurance representatives.
- If there are serious medical injuries or property damage, seek counsel of a lawyer as soon as you can. Make an appointment and report all injuries to your family doctor within a day or two. Also, write a daily injury condition journal. Comply with your doctor's instructions for faster recovery.
- Retain copies of all medical bills and related accident expenses, such as towing and repair, as well as costs for travel, parking, etc.
- Document any income loss associated with the accident.



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SOUTHFIELD, MI

On Law is a monthly publication from Cummings, McClure, Davis & ACHO, P.L.C. Comments and questions regarding specific articles should be addressed to the attention of the contributing writer. Remarks concerning miscellaneous features should be addressed to the attention of Jennifer Sherman.

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Our Vision

To meld our legal expertise, professional support staff, technical resources and variety of locations to deliver first rate legal services at a fair value to a full range of business, municipal, insurance and individual clients.



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