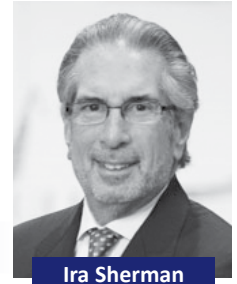


CHAIKIN
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Attorneys at Law

So, what's new?

A message from Managing Partner Ira Sherman



Ira Sherman

All of our clients and followers of our newsletter and website are aware that the soul of the law firm, and its primary driving force, is to aggressively and creatively represent individuals injured because of the carelessness of others. As many of you know, we have dedicated ourselves to representing individuals irrespective of the severity of the injury—whether it is “whiplash” or severe traumatic brain injury. Each and every client is represented with the same energy and drive to obtain the greatest amount of compensation available under the law. Many of you know that our clients are frequently involved in automobile accidents, slip and falls, excessive force by police or hired security, truck and tractor-trailer accidents, and accidents that arise out of the negligent operations of swimming pools, group homes, and other places where we place our trust in others who care for our children or other loved ones.

However, several clients have asked, “So, what’s new?”—meaning what are the new developing areas of the law that we are now focusing on. The focus on individuals who sustain brain injuries is always evolving. That is not because concussions and brain injuries are new; it is because the public has become very aware of the dangers of concussions and head injuries. We know about head injuries because of the NFL settlement, from our own family experiences, and that of young men and women returning from active duty with

posttraumatic stress disorder. Accordingly, individuals involved in accidents are now more willing to talk about their “forgetfulness,” changing moods, loss of taste and smell, and many things that they so much enjoyed before the accident took place. Now, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland all have various forms of “Youth Concussion Protection” acts. Each of these laws has the goal of protecting our children who engage in sports from the effects of traumatic brain injury. “When in doubt, take them out” refers to the new requirement that when a concussion is suspected, the child must be removed from the game and not be permitted to return to play until a certified health professional allows it. The failure of organizations and individuals to adequately protect our youths from sustaining concussions or responding appropriately by removing them from the game when a concussion is suspected can result in compensation for the harm caused by the carelessness of the supervisory staff.

Finally, there is Uber. The lawyers at CSCS are concerned, aware, and vigilant to assure that Uber is held responsible for the negligent hire and supervision of those who drive under its direction.

And so, unfortunately, there is always something new that comes along to place our clients in danger and cause injury, pain, and suffering. We have always been there to assure your protection from these dangers, and we intend to remain your advocate for life.

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ALL THREE PARTNERS NAMED WASHINGTON D.C. SUPER LAWYERS FOR SIXTH STRAIGHT YEAR— ASSOCIATE MATTHEW TIEVSKY NAMED RISING STAR AGAIN

Partners **Ira Sherman**, **Joseph Cammarata**, and **Allan M. Siegel** were each selected to the 2016 *Washington D.C. Super Lawyers*® list. This is the sixth consecutive year that all three partners have been given this prestigious honor. Only 5 percent of attorneys in the Washington, D.C., area are named to this elite list. Lawyers are selected for this list by a patented multiphase selection process. First, the organization solicits peer nominations and evaluations. Then *Super Lawyers* does its own independent research. Each nominee is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Partner Joseph Cammarata was named one of the top 100 *Super Lawyers*®, which means he had one of the top 100 highest point totals during the *Super Lawyers*® nomination, research, and review process.

We are also proud to announce that associate **Matthew Tievsky** made the *Super Lawyers*® *Rising Stars* list for the third consecutive year. The *Super Lawyers* lists were included in the April 24, 2016 edition of the *The Washington Post Magazine*.



Super Lawyers



LAW FIRM RECEIVES 2015 LITIGATOR AWARD

The Litigator Award is a unique award that is presented to law firms by the *Trial Lawyers Board of Regents*™ for their achievements in receiving million or multimillion dollar awards on behalf of their clients. Of the over 1.1 million lawyers considered for the award, only a select few per state receive the award. Chaikin, Sherman, Cammarata & Siegel, P.C., received the award in 2015 for two cases previously reported in this newsletter—a \$4.8 million settlement obtained by partners Allan M. Siegel and Joseph Cammarata on behalf of a motorcyclist who was severely injured when a minivan pulled out from a stop sign in Frederick, Maryland, and a \$4.5 million verdict obtained by Joseph Cammarata in Alexandria Circuit Court, on behalf of a pedestrian who was severely injured by an Alexandria City Ride-On bus. The winners were featured in announcements on CNN, ABC, and CBS.



JOSEPH CAMMARATA'S TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF D.C. COMES TO AN END

One year ago, **Joseph Cammarata** was sworn in as president of the Trial Lawyers Association of Metropolitan D.C. (TLA-DC). TLA-DC's mission is to assure that victims of other people's wrongdoings have uninhibited access to justice so they may obtain full and complete compensation for the harms and losses they suffered.

Mr. Cammarata's term ended in May 2016. His wonderful leadership was celebrated at the TLA-DC's Annual Awards Dinner on May 14, where he stepped down and handed the reins of the organization to his successor. Under Mr. Cammarata's leadership, TLA-DC presented groundbreaking educational seminars for other lawyers in the community, and the association's membership and sponsorship increased, leaving it in a robust financial position. Further, TLA-DC continues its commitment to provide resources to the community and remains a vigilant protector of our clients' right to have their cases heard by a jury of their peers.

Mr. Cammarata now joins his partners Ira Sherman and Allan M. Siegel in an exclusive group of lawyers who can call themselves Past President of this prestigious organization.



BILL COSBY CASE PROCEEDS TO DISCOVERY

Many of you who follow the firm news know that partners **Joseph Cammarata** and **Ira Sherman**, and associate **Matthew Tievsky**, are representing seven women who sued Mr. Cosby for defamation. These women claim that Bill Cosby has “branded them liars” as a result of his public denials of their claims that Mr. Cosby sexually assaulted or abused them.

The law firm successfully defeated Mr. Cosby’s attempt to have the case dismissed. We also overcame Mr. Cosby’s attempts to limit our ability to take the deposition of Mrs. Cosby. The case is currently moving forward in the discovery (fact-finding) stage. Mr. Cammarata took the deposition of Mrs. Cosby and the depositions of two of Mr. Cosby’s former lawyers who were involved in defaming our seven clients.

Mr. Cosby has also been criminally charged in Pennsylvania as a result of his alleged assault of another victim. In light of this pending criminal case, we have not been allowed to take Mr. Cosby’s deposition because any testimony he gives in the defamation case may incriminate him with respect to the criminal charges pending against him.

We look forward to presenting our clients’ cases to a jury. Our clients are resolute in their conviction that after a jury trial, their good names and reputations will be restored.

TOP 10 SWIMMING SAFETY TIPS

With summer upon us, we always like to remind our clients how important it is to keep their children safe in the water. Unfortunately, the law firm has handled many drowning and near-drowning cases caused by inadequate supervision of swimmers or poor safety procedures and protocols. Here are some reminders on how to stay safe while in the water:

1. Ensure your child is swimming in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
2. Always have your child swim with a buddy.
3. Never leave your child unattended near water.
4. Do not trust your child’s life to another child.
5. If your child can’t swim, or doesn’t swim well, have them wear U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets or flotation devices.
6. If you have a pool, ensure that it is secured with appropriate barriers.
7. Do not get distracted when you are supervising children around water. Seconds can count in saving a child’s life.
8. Remove toys from the pool when not in use. “Noodles” and other blow-up toys and rafts can be very tempting to other children. You don’t want a child to lean over the edge to get a toy and fall in the water, or for a less experienced swimmer to use a toy that puts them in a dangerous situation.
9. Make sure that you have all appropriate equipment nearby. For example, you should have reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets, and a first-aid kit readily accessible near the water. Be prepared to call 9-1-1 or other local emergency number, if necessary.
10. Follow safety signs posted at the pool or beach, and make sure your child knows the importance of following directions.

CHAIKIN, SHERMAN, CAMMARATA & SIEGEL, P.C., BECOMES WASHINGTON AREA BICYCLE ASSOCIATION LEGAL RESOURCE MEMBER

We are proud to announce our association with the Washington Bicycle Association (WABA) as a Legal Resource member. WABA is an organization whose mission is to create a healthy, more livable region by promoting bicycling for fun, fitness, and affordable transportation; advocating for better bicycling conditions; and providing education about safe bicycling.

Unfortunately, approximately 1 in 20 bicyclists are injured in crashes yearly. When these crashes involve automobiles, they can be some of the most deadly crashes on our roadways. Accordingly, WABA began a Legal Resource program to connect their members, who have been involved in bicycle crashes, with lawyers experienced in representing bicycle crash victims. CSCS was a perfect fit. As a law firm based in Washington, D.C., our lawyers have been representing bicyclists for over 40 years. We are excited to be part of such a wonderful organization.



CSCS WELCOMES ASSOCIATES WILLIAM ATKINSON AND ASHLEY PAGE

William Atkinson joined the law firm as an associate attorney and is proud to be continuing to fight for individuals whose lives have been affected by the negligence of others. His practice areas include motor vehicle collisions, premises liability, and other tort claims. He also has a special interest in False Claims Act whistleblower cases. Mr. Atkinson received his J.D. from the University of California—Los Angeles School of Law in 2011, where he served as the managing editor of the *UCLA Entertainment Law Review* and as senior editor of the *UCLA Journal of Law and Technology*. Mr. Atkinson is a longtime resident of the Washington, D.C., area, and prior to joining Chaikin, Sherman, Cammarata & Siegel, P.C., he worked for another prominent Washington, D.C., law firm that represents the rights of injured individuals.

We would also like to welcome back **Ashley Page** as an associate attorney at Chaikin, Sherman, Cammarata & Siegel, P.C. She originally joined the firm as a law clerk in 2012 and after law school transitioned to an associate attorney position. After a leave of absence, she is once again proud to be fighting on behalf of our personal injury clients. Her excellent work, dedication, and compassion for clients make her a valuable asset at our firm. She is licensed to practice law in the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia. She attended law school at American University Washington College of Law, where she graduated cum laude and participated in their nationally top-ranked clinical program. Ashley has previously worked for the United States Attorney's Office, in Washington, D.C.; the Sexual Assault Legal Institute, in Maryland; and The Chronicle of Higher Education, in Washington, D.C.

We are your law firm

We want you to think of us as your law firm.

If you have legal matters that need attention, please let us know. If we cannot handle the matter, we will refer you to a competent firm that can.

Please feel free to refer us to your family, friends, and neighbors for their legal needs. We welcome the opportunity to help.

Call us. You're going to feel a whole lot better about things.

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PARTNER ALLAN M. SIEGEL INVITED TO SPEAK AT NEW JERSEY AND D.C. SEMINARS

Partner **Allan M. Siegel** was invited to speak at the New Jersey Association for Justice's Annual *Boardwalk Seminar* on April 8, 2016. The Boardwalk Seminar is a three-day seminar that takes place in Atlantic City, New Jersey, which features local New Jersey lawyers and top national speakers from across the country. Mr. Siegel was invited as one of the national speakers and asked to speak with a stalwart of the New Jersey Bar, Michael Maggiano, on the topic of closing arguments. Mr. Siegel and Mr. Maggiano drew distinctions between closing arguments that Mr. Siegel has made, resulting in successful jury verdicts in the District of Columbia, and arguments that Mr. Maggiano has made in New Jersey.

Mr. Siegel was also invited to talk to the D.C. Bar on May 26, 2016, along with two preeminent members of the defense bar. The title of the seminar was *New and Unique Aspects of Handling an Auto Accident Case in the District of Columbia*. Lawyers who practice in the D.C. Metropolitan Area are tasked with knowing the distinctions between the laws and procedures in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. Mr. Siegel is licensed in all three jurisdictions and focused his presentation on new laws in the District of Columbia that make practice in the District and its courts challenging. The seminar was well attended and well received by the attendees.