



# MELDONLAW

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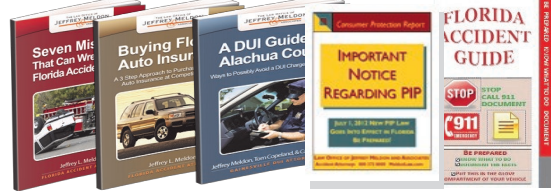
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## Know Someone Who Needs Our Help? We are here for you...

**Our best clients come from YOU– the folks who know us and trust us.**

Serving the “Heart of Florida”, we are a team of experienced personal injury attorneys, trial lawyers, negotiators, litigators, case managers, and support staff that have been proudly working to get accident victims the justice they deserve for over 40 years in Gainesville, Ocala, Lake City, Inverness, and throughout the state of Florida. The types of cases we handle include, but are not limited to: accidents involving cars, trucks, motorcycles, bicycle, or pedestrians, dog bites, slip and falls, medical malpractice and criminal defense. Feel free to contact our office to let us know how we can help you. Call us at (800) 373-8000 or visit us online at [www.MeldonLaw.com](http://www.MeldonLaw.com) today!



### May's "Trivial Pursuit" >>>

#### Questions:

1. According to the Bible, who is the mother of all the living?
2. The woman credited with having the most children gave birth to how many?
3. Who is credited with founding Mother's Day?
4. On average, how many diaper changes will a mother perform by a baby's second birthday?
5. What is the traditional Mother's Day flower in the United States?
6. Which U.S. President made Mother's Day an official national holiday?
7. Which television mom drove a flowered bus?
8. What are the odds of a mother delivering twins?
9. What is the most popular month in which to have a baby?
10. What did England previously call Mothers day?



Answers: 1. Eve, 2. 69, 3. Anna Jarvis, 4. 7,300, 5. White Carnation, 6. Woodrow Wilson, 7. Shirley Partridge, 8. 1 in 33, 9. August 10. Mothering Sunday.

## MELDON LAW TALK

A Monthly Newsletter Publication from Meldon Law

May 2015

### Attorneys

Jeffrey L. Meldon  
Tom L. Copeland  
Carey W. Meldon



MELDONLAW  
*You Matter Most*



### Wrongful Death

### Personal Injury

### Criminal Defense



### You Know You've Become a Mom When...

You automatically double-knot everything you tie.  
You find yourself humming the Barney song as you do the dishes.

You hear a baby cry in the grocery store, and you start to gently sway back and forth, back and forth. However, your children are at school!

You actually start to like the smell of strained carrots mixed with applesauce.

You weep through the scene in Dumbo when his mom is taken away, not to mention what Bambi does to you.

You get so into crafts you contemplate writing a book called 101 Fun Crafts to do with Dryer Lint and Eggshells.

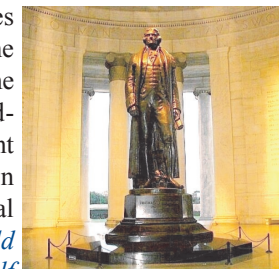
You spend a half hour searching for your sunglasses only to have your teenager say, "Mom, why don't you wear the ones you pushed up on your head?"

You are out for a nice romantic meal with your husband, enjoying some real adult conversation, when suddenly you realize that you've reached over and started to cut up his steak!



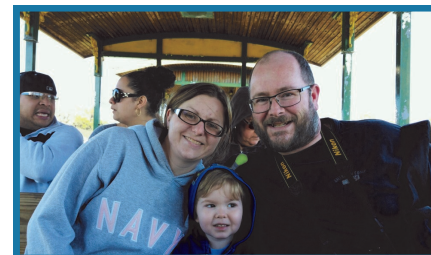
Spring is here and attorney Jeffrey Meldon took on the opportunity to enjoy activities in the great outdoors while visiting some historical sites in our nation's capital and bringing back a few quotes from three great leaders of the past.

Cherry Blossoms were in full bloom during the first week of April when attorney Jeffrey Meldon had the opportunity to visit our nation's capital in Washington, D.C. During his trip, Jeffrey visited the Tidal Basin which is home to three important national monuments, including the Jefferson Memorial which commemorates Thomas Jefferson, the primary author of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the United States. On the walls of the memorial are the words "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal" as well as the remainder of the Declaration of Independence and other great quotes. Second on the list is the memorial dedicated to Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR), the President who led us through the Great Depression and WWII. The FDR memorial has a series of granite slabs which contain some of his quotes as President (1933-1945).



During the depths of the Great Depression when it was extremely difficult for citizens to find any kind of work to support their families Congress passed the WPA (Works Projects Administration) that gave every willing American a chance to contribute and maintain the pride and integrity of working and being able to put food on their families, tables. At the FDR memorial site there's a statue of a needy man next to a FDR quote that reads "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, but whether we provide enough for those who have too little." The third and final memorial surrounding the Tidal Basin is that of Martin Luther King Jr. built in 2011, King's memorial is carved into a large piece of granite with King facing the Jefferson Memorial. At the King Memorial, a quote from King's 1959 speech in Washington, D.C. reads "Make a career of Humanity, commit yourself to the noble cause of equal rights. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your Country, and a finer world to live in" See additional photos on page 3.

### Thank You For Your Referral: The Vanover Family of Homosassa, FL



Brian & Michelle Vanover and their son Weiland

We would like to take the opportunity to recognize the Vanover family of Homosassa, FL for referring a case to our office and trusting us to handle the needs of a dear friend. As a special thank you, we will be making a donation to a charity of the Vanover's choice in their name.

- The Meldon Law Team

## Small Business Spotlight...

### The Plant Shoppe Florist of Gainesville.



Located right down the street from the Gainesville Police Department, The Plant Shoppe Florist of Gainesville has everything you need.

Originally founded in 1985 as a garden center and florist, The Plant Shoppe is a full service florist offering fresh floral arrangements and plants for all occasions. They also offer in-house printable invitations and formal invitations by Carlson Craft and other well-known companies, The Plant Shoppe's staff specializes in all of your needs for weddings, plant rentals, Mother's Day, and any floral design you can imagine.

A native of Homestead, FL, current business owner Betsy Gardner worked at the Plant Shoppe while in college at the University of Florida. In 1992 Betsy's family back home was impacted by Hurricane Andrew, and while she wanted to return home to help, her family encouraged her to stay in Gainesville and continue her studies.

Betsy's passion and family background in the horticulture business eventually led her to earning a Masters Degree from UF in Horticulture. In 1999 Betsy was presented with the opportunity to purchase the business and make it her own, and with the support of her family, she took on the opportunity. Since June of 1999 The Plant Shoppe has continued to thrive under Betsy's ownership.

Please visit the Plant Shoppe at 303 NW 8th Avenue in Gainesville or online at [www.theplantshoppe.com](http://www.theplantshoppe.com) or call: (352) 371-6249.



Betsy and Terry Gardner, Owners of The Plant Shoppe Gainesville.

## Community Events...

**Sunday, May 10, 2015:**

### The 6th Annual Taste of Gainesville 2015.



Come out and support the Taste of Gainesville as they raise funds and awareness for various non-profit organizations here in the heart of Florida. The event will be held at the UF Hilton from 5pm-9pm and feature some of our best local chefs. For more information and tickets, please visit: [www.tasteofgainesville.com](http://www.tasteofgainesville.com)

**Saturday, May 9, 2015:**

### Windsor Zucchini Festival.

It's time to celebrate everyone's favorite summer squash! Festival activities include over 100 Arts and Crafts vendors from all around the state., the "Duke of Zuke and Zuqueenie Pageant", Cook-A-Zuke and zucchini carving contests. The event begins at 9:00AM and will be held at the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department Grounds, located at 1401 SE County RD 234 (between 20 & 26) east of Gainesville. A wagon shuttle/trolley rides to parking areas will be available.

## This month's topic of interest:

### May 2015

Each month our staff takes a number of calls from people within the North Central Florida Community. Although we aren't always able to take every case we receive, there is always an opportunity to educate others. Here's a topic worth discussing.



### Deadlines for filing a law suit in the state of Florida.

Every state, including Florida, has a statute of limitations. This statute sets a deadline for how long you have to file a lawsuit in civil court against the person or business that might be legally at fault for your injury.

This statute is to make sure that plaintiffs decide whether or not they will file a claim in a timely matter.

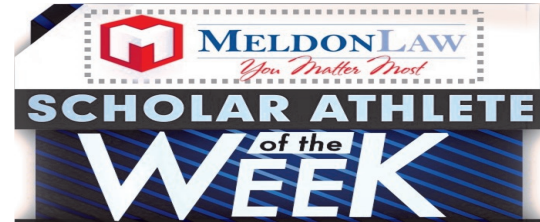
Florida's statute of limitations for personal injury cases gives you **four years** from the date of the accident. Uninsured /Underinsured claims have a five year statute of limitations. However, if the injury claim is against a city, county or state government, the time limit is **three years**.

You should be aware that weekends and holidays are included in the count. After the four years have passed, you may be barred from bringing your case to court, no matter how strong your arguments are.

The court will probably refuse to hear your case if you do not meet the deadline for filing. However, in certain cases, where the plaintiff may not have "discovered" the injury until some time after the accident, the court may allow the plaintiff to file a lawsuit after the statute of limitations expired. The basis of this exception is the delayed discovery of the injury.

Extensions based on delayed discovery of the injury are not automatic. The plaintiff will have to prove to the court that the cause of the delay of discovery was reasonable. If the court feels a reasonable person could have discovered the injury before the time limit expired, the court will probably not allow you to file a lawsuit.

For more information on this topic, please visit [www.MeldonLaw.com/](http://www.MeldonLaw.com/)



Congratulations To Our Jeffrey Meldon/ TV20 Scholar Athletes of the Week!

Meldon Law has sponsored the Scholar Athlete Program since 1997. Every week of the school year a high school senior in the North Central Florida area is chosen as the Scholar-Athlete of the Week and given a \$100 scholarship and a plaque. At the end of the school year we hold a banquet for all the winners and their families. Last year nearly 200 people attended the Scholar Athlete Banquet where one male and one female is chosen as **The Scholar Athlete of the Year**. The winners receive a \$1,000 scholarship plus a beautiful glass trophy commemorating their achievement. Starting in 2003 the Meldon Law Firm teamed up with **WCJB TV20** to promote the event widely on **TV 20**.

### Our Most Recent Scholar Athletes!

**March 19, 2015: Drew Burgelin** from **Oak Hall** for Baseball. Drew serves as the Vice President of Student Body at Oak Hall and has been playing on the varsity baseball team since 8th grade. He enjoys playing defense in the outfield and is an overall top performer on the team. In the classroom Drew holds 4.3GPA and is undecided on whether he will take his talents to the University of Florida or Florida State University in the fall.

**March 26, 2015: Caleb Cox** from **Union County H.S.** for Baseball and Football. Caleb has played varsity ball since the 8th grade. He's played baseball since he was a 5 year old and is also the starting quarterback for the Tigers. As quarterback Caleb accounts for over 2,400 yards and 33 touchdowns as they went 9-3 this season. In the classroom Caleb holds a 3.3 GPA and will head to Savannah State University in the fall.

**April 2, 2015: Samantha Barwick** from **Williston H.S.** for Softball. Samantha is 5th in her class, holding a 4.27GPA and serves as President of Williston's National Honor Society. She enjoys playing catcher but is great in a number of other positions on the team. Samantha will take her talents to Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College where she will major in Biotechnology and Animal Sciences in the fall.

**April 9, 2015: Ty Barber** from **Bronson H.S.** for Baseball. Ty is the leading scorer for the basketball team and also a four year starter for the Bronson baseball team. Ty plays short stop and second base for the Eagles, but his favorite position is as pitcher. In the classroom Ty holds a 4.26 GPA and is the Valedictorian of his graduating class. Ty plans to major in Physical Therapy at a two year college next fall and while undecided on which school he will attend, he knows he wants to continue to play baseball.

## Photo happenings...



Attorneys Jeffrey & Carey Meldon pictured at the Florida Bar Masters of DUI seminar held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL where there served as lecturers for the event held on March 27, 2015



Meldon Law case manager Lisa Allen (In bottom front) took part in the Clint Lacinak Shamrock 5K Walk/ Run held on March 21, 2015 in Gainesville, FL.

## Office Highlights...

### Attorney Jeffrey Meldon and friends of the University of Florida's Jewish Community Center Welcome UF's 12th President Dr. W. Kent Fuchs.

Attorney Jeffrey Meldon attended a meet and greet at the Tabacnic/ Levin Center for Jewish Life at the University of Florida on April 1, 2015. The center held its Grand Opening ceremony in February of 2014 and recently had the opportunity to welcome the University of Florida's 12th President, Dr. W. Kent Fuchs for a tour and Passover Dinner held at the center on April 3, 2015. Dr. Fuchs previously served as Provost of Cornell University where he managed 14 academic colleges and schools, \$2.2 billion in annual expenditures, and \$500 million in annual sponsored and organized research.

As Cornell's Chief Administrative Officer, Dr. Fuchs developed Cornell's strategic plan for achieving academic pre-eminence as one of the world's top 10 universities; launched a university-wide reimagining initiative that enhanced Cornell's academic stature; and led a team and a strategy that resulted in the creation of a new graduate applied sciences campus on Roosevelt Island, New York City, in partnership with the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. Welcome to the **Gator Nation** Dr. W.Kent Fuchs!



UF President Dr. W. Kent Fuchs pictured with attorney Jeffrey Meldon, UF Law professor Michael Wolf, Rabbi Aaron Notik, Rabbi Berl & wife Chanie Goldman.



Rabbi Berl Goldman & Dr. W. Kent Fuchs.

## Community Spotlight: United Way Reading Pals Initiative.



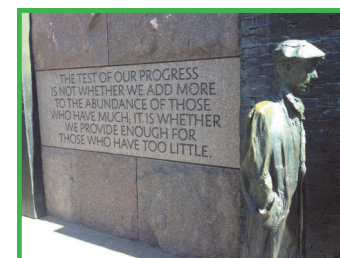
United Way of North Central Florida

Help the United Way of North Central Florida impact a child's life by becoming a Reading Pal. Nearly 18 percent of all 3rd graders in Alachua County are not reading at grade level. By giving just one hour a week, you can make a difference.

Helping children and youth achieve their potential through education is an important part of United Way's primary goal of increasing high school graduation rates through investments in early childhood education. Help the United Way of North Central Florida work in collaboration with local partners to reach this goal together! For more information about the Reading Pals program, please contact Angela Hutchings at [ahutchings@unitedwayncfl.org](mailto:ahutchings@unitedwayncfl.org) or call 352-333-0858.



### Additional photos from story on page 1.



Quote from FDR Memorial site

Cherry Blossom trees in bloom.



Jefferson Memorial.



Martin Luther King quote.