

YOUR BEST LIFE

Honest. Excellent. Real.

JAN
2020



Liquor Liability

BAD DUI WRECK? Who ELSE put that Drunk Driver behind the wheel before he hurt or killed someone?

If you have been injured in a car wreck and the person who hit you was drunk, you may be wondering what you need to do about that. What if the person hit you has not enough insurance, or, worse, no insurance?

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW



What is it that people rarely do after they have been in a car wreck and hurt someone? I will tell you what they don't do. They don't have the common courtesy or decency to simply pick up the phone and call the person they hurt and apologize to them, or to check on them and see how they are doing. If you simply bump into someone while standing in line at the movie theater, we have enough common courtesy to say, "Oh, I'm sorry. Excuse me." BUT, if a person gets behind the wheel after choosing to drink heavily to intoxication and choosing to get behind the wheel of a car and put all of the public in danger, ... crickets. No effort to contact anyone.

So, since there is so little contact, there is no inquiry or revealing of where the drunk driver partook of all the alcohol that got him/her so intoxicated they can barely stand up. But does that matter? YES! Tennessee Law is very clear, a social host cannot be held liable for providing alcohol to any guest, even to minors. TCA 57-10-101. However a seller of alcohol, as opposed to a social host, may be found civilly liable (for money damages) for selling alcohol to minors under 21 years old; or for selling alcoholic beverages "to an obviously intoxicated person and such person caused the personal injury or death as a direct result of the consumption of the alcoholic beverage or beer so sold." TCA 57-10-102 This is also what is known legally as "Dram Shop Liability." This antique phrase refers to any establishment where alcohol was sold by eh "dram," which was a spoonful of liquid.



If a bartender continues to sell and serve alcohol to a person who is obviously intoxicated, and that person starts a fight with someone else, or gets behind the wheel after being served, the bar itself may be held responsible for all of the harm and carnage so caused. Sure, the drunk person who caused the harm will be held responsible first, but way too many times this person does not have enough resources or insurance to cover the horrific harms he/she has caused. The bar or restaurant has a duty to not cause someone to become more intoxicated and make money off that person, then turn around and turn them loose on the rest of us without bearing some portion of responsibility for their total disregard of the safety of the rest of us.

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In the Office

MOMENTUM FOR THE NEW YEAR:

Goal Setting



In October of 2019, we set several goals to complete by the end of the year! At the time, it seemed like quite the feat! With teamwork, focus, and diligence we were able to surpass our office goal!

"Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible."
-- Tony Robbins

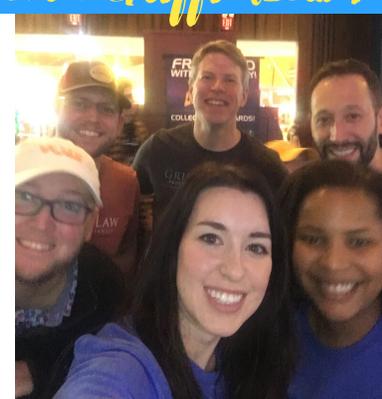
This was important for many reasons! It not only allowed us to see just how capable we are working together as a team, but it also showed us the power of putting goals on paper!

Research shows that people who describe their goals in detail and write them down are 42% more likely to successfully achieve their goals! We are implementing team goal setting this year, and cannot wait to see all that we can accomplish on behalf of our clients.

We look forward to setting and surpassing many more goals this year to grow stronger together, and to provide the best possible service to our clients and friends!

Team Griffith Law Day

2020 Here We Come!



YOUR TURN

Lexi N.
Erin, TN

I was involved in a boating accident in June of 2017 that, unfortunately, left me with lifelong injuries. John Griffith & his team at Griffith Law Firm handled my case exceptionally! This law firm strives to get their clients the best possible outcomes, and is very professional!



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Email sydney@griffithinjurylaw.com to share your story with GriffithLaw and be featured in our newsletter...

What Dram Shop Liability

MEANS FOR YOUR CASE

There are 3 ways that an establishment can be held responsible for your auto wreck or other injuries, according to Tennessee Law. Either of these options can be true for them to be held liable:

- 1 The person was drunk and the establishment continued to serve them alcohol;**
- 2 The restaurant or bar served enough alcohol to the person that they should have known the person would be drunk from the amount served; OR**
- 3 The restaurant served the alcohol to a minor.**

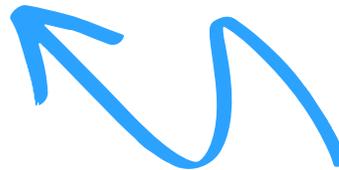
If you have been hit by a drunk drive and you suspect they were at a bar, you need to do the following as soon as possible:

- 1. Simply call the person up and see if they will cooperate with you and admit where they were served all the alcohol;**
- 2. If they do not cooperate, you NEED TO GET A LAWYER**

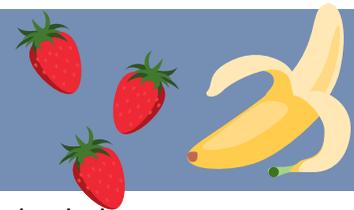
There is no other way to get this information from the drunk drive if they do not step up and cooperate with you. If they fail to do this, a competent personal injury lawyer will get this information much sooner than you will be able to, if you ever can. Also, you need to be aware that forcing this information from the mouth of the drunk driver TAKES TIME. And you may not have a lot of time, especially in Tennessee where we have the shortest statute on personal injury claims in the ENTIRE NATION. Also, a competent lawyer will force any known restaurant to not destroy evidence, such as receipts, VIDEO surveillance, etc. Video is usually wiped clean by most servers every 2-4 weeks. Failure to send a spoliation letter to them could be extremely detrimental to your case, allowing evidence to literally disappear.

If you have been hurt by a drunk driver, act quickly. Call my office TODAY so that we can evaluate your case and give you direction on the next steps you must take to protect your claim.

Protecting Your Family,



Strawberry Banana Smoothie



After the holidays we could all use a little refresh! Try this super easy breakfast smoothie to start your day right! Low calorie, natural sugars, and loaded with vitamins! Cheers to the start of a great year of healthy choices!

YIELDS: 1 LARGE SMOOTHIE

TOTAL TIME: 5 MIN

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Frozen Banana
- 1 cup strawberries (fresh or frozen)
- 1/2 cup unsweetened Greek yogurt
- 1 cup unsweetened milk

DIRECTIONS

1

Blend everything together until smooth, adding a splash more milk if the smoothie is too thick for your blender to process well.

Enjoy!

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 1 Smoothie	
Serves 1	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories	229
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 1.4g	2%
Cholesterol 8.6mg	3%
Sodium 179.7mg	7%
Total Carbohydrate 41.5g	14%
Sugars 31.2g	
Protein 13.3g	27%
Vitamin A	1%
Vitamin C	142%

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REFLECTION OF THE MONTH

"What the New Year brings
you will depend a great deal
on what you bring to the New
Year."

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WE  LOVE OUR CLIENTS!

