

## OAJ Trucking Safety Section Article August 2013

### Breaker Breaker One-Nine - Announcing OAJ's Trucking Safety Section And The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual All-Day Trucking CLE

By: Andrew Young, Esq.

The Trucking Safety Section of the OAJ is gaining traction and is now traveling at highway speeds. This past month we had a lively discussion sharing written information that included: what the trucking defense lawyers are saying about you and your trucking cases; and, what matters most to the trucking insurance company adjuster. We also had a discussion about minimum insurance coverage issues and how to potentially find more coverage. Lastly, we held a brainstorming session to assist colleagues with case specific questions. Materials were passed around that were sure to assist attendees in their ability to maximize a recovery for their clients.

Our next Trucking Safety Section meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. at OAJ's office located at 655 Metro Place South, Dublin, Ohio. At our next meeting we will be finalizing our by-laws and appointments. We will again roundtable case specific questions and discuss the latest trends in the trucking industry. We welcome your active participation. However, before you mark your calendar for October 18<sup>th</sup>, begin your active participation by earning CLE credits at OAJ's Trucking Safety Section's All-Day Trucking CLE on September 17<sup>th</sup>, in Toledo, Ohio.

Last year OAJ held its first ever all-day trucking seminar, "Advocating For Highway Safety - Truck Accident Litigation." Comments on the list serve about last year's seminar were as follows:

"Great seminar ... probably the finest that I have been to in quite some time."

"Unbelievably good."

"Thanks for putting this great program together."

"The seminar was excellent, great information, material and speakers."

"It was a great and interesting line-up."

"I was scheduled to attend and had to cancel....It's killing me that I missed it."

For those who missed it, OAJ's Trucking Safety Section is once again hosting another all-day trucking seminar on **September 17, 2013** in Toledo, Ohio entitled "**Trending Techniques For Handling Truck Accident Cases.**"

Two of the nationally recognized and respected trucking litigators, **Joseph Fried, GA** and **Michael Leizerman, OH** are returning to speak again this year. Both will be presenting

new information during an afternoon interactive session entitled, “Fully Developing The Story of Your Truck Case Using Psychodrama and Other Techniques.”

Joe admits that “psychodrama” is a terrible word for this incredibly effective trial and deposition technique. He swears by it as both a graduate and teacher of the Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College. In fact, he informs me that this technique is taught for three (3) days at the trial college.

Additionally, Michael has utilized this technique and believes it helped him net several recent seven (7) figure trial results. At one of our Trucking Safety Section meetings, Michael effectively demonstrated the benefits of psychodrama and other techniques to the amazement of those in attendance. As an aside, Michael was honored by the AAJ Trucking Litigation Group’s past-chair with the Chairman’s Award. Congratulations to Michael for this outstanding achievement.

Joe and Michael’s afternoon presentation will be a combination of some lecture and live demonstration, the goal of which is to broaden the participant’s understanding of how re-enactment, scene setting, role reversal and other psychodramatic techniques can help a lawyer identify and then present the compelling stories in their case at mediation and trial. This presentation will be based on actual truck examples, however these methods apply to car accident and other cases too.

Both Joe and Michael were featured speakers at this past month’s AAJ Summer Convention in San Francisco, California. Don’t miss this opportunity to earn CLE credit and learn from both Michael and Joe without having to travel out-of-state. Even if you do not handle trucking accident cases, this seminar is sure to benefit your everyday practice and approach to litigating your cases.

**Justin Madden, OH, Mark Napier, OH** and I will also be lecturing at the upcoming All-Day Trucking Seminar. Justin will be sharing his experience and successes regarding several recent truck cases with his presentation entitled, “Using the FMCSR as a Roadmap for Your Case.” Mark will be presenting information on “How to Win Your Spoliation of Evidence Claims.” I will be presenting new information and demonstrating “Technological Tools to Win Your Truck Accident Case” focusing on new trucking related technologies, such as Collision Mitigation Systems; In-Cab Video Systems; Social Media, and more.

Saving one of the best for last, our other featured out-of-state speaker at this year’s All-Day seminar is **Robert L. Collins, TX**. Robert also is nationally recognized and respected. More importantly, he is presently the 2013-2014 Chair of the AAJ Trucking Litigation Group. Robert is frequently a CLE speaker on trucking matters in various states and his topic for our seminar is “The Loader Liability - Load Shift Cases & The Truck-Driver As Plaintiff.” Robert’s active leadership with the AAJ Trucking Litigation Group has brought about exciting new activities for the numerous committees that make up this 400 member group. If you are not yet a member of the AAJ Trucking Litigation Group, Robert is certain to inspire you to join.

Attendees who handle car accident cases and who have not yet been exposed to the nuances of trucking litigation will realize that an injury caused by a commercial motor vehicle is very different than one caused by a car. By coming to the all-day trucking seminar and then participating in the OAJ Trucking Safety Section you will no longer treat a serious truck accident like a simple car wreck. By learning about the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, the CSA, the CDL Handbook; and more you will have the tools you need to become an experienced trucking lawyer making life difficult for defense counsel and increasing the defendant trucking company's exposure.

Learn "**Trending Techniques For Handling Truck Accident Cases**" by coming to OAJ's Second Annual All-Day Trucking Seminar on September 17, 2013. This seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn-French Quarter, 10630 Fremont Pike, Route 20, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Reserve your spot now by contacting Alison Kirkpatrick of OAJ at [AlisonK@oajjustice.org](mailto:AlisonK@oajjustice.org). **Need a hotel room for this event?** OAJ has a block of rooms with the Holiday Inn - French Quarter for \$95 a night. Be sure to say you're with the OAJ when booking your room. The hotel can be reached at (419) 874-3111.

Those in attendance will also learn how to become active members of the OAJ Trucking Safety Section. Do not miss this awesome opportunity to become inspired and excited to go to trial on your next case. Safe travels everyone!