

From The President



These are unusual times indeed. Fortunately for our clients, Anesi Ozmon is an unusual law firm. We have managed to thrive over the course of 65 years, making us one of the oldest plaintiff personal injury law firms in the country. During that time, we have seen and survived several unforeseen events, which were characterized by their unpredictability and potentially severe consequences. When the Structural Work Act was repealed by the Illinois legislature, our firm pivoted and helped expand other rights and remedies for our clients injured while working in the construction trades. Fifteen years later, Illinois passed a law placing caps on non-economic damages in medical malpractice cases. In 2010, our attorneys argued before the Illinois Supreme Court that the caps were unconstitutional, and we prevailed.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we continue our aggressive and unparalleled legal representation of our clients in the new norm of the legal practice. As you will read below, we continue to obtain outstanding results for our clients in personal injury and workers' compensation cases. And while many firms are operating from their homes, our attorneys are present in the office, aggressively representing our clients and always available to discuss our cases.

While many firms are shrinking or going out of business, our firm is continuing to grow. We are proud to welcome back Dave Figlioli to the Anesi Ozmon team. Dave bolsters our workers' compensation department and adds his expertise in representing firefighters and police officers in their disability pension claims. We are also proud to welcome Charlie Terry, a lifelong plaintiff personal injury attorney in the making. Charlie is our newest associate in our personal injury practice. Finally, we have welcomed Breanna Brill, a rising third-year law student at Chicago-Kent College of Law. Breanna has been kept busy researching and writing briefs.

During this pandemic, we have continued to mediate cases, file new lawsuits

involving medical malpractice, construction negligence, premises liability and auto accidents, and file new claims at the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission. Our general practice department has been busy preparing wills and trusts, administering estates and handling real estate closings. Although we have been busy, we always have time to answer your questions. If you have been injured, or have questions concerning your legal rights, please feel free to contact us.

John M. Popelka
President and Managing Partner

ANESIOZMON

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS



\$1.7 Million Settlement for Ironworker's Career-Ending Injury

Partners Brian Teven and Doug Colby obtained a settlement in excess of \$1.7 million for a Local 63 Ironworker. Our 59-year-old client was moving a cart full of steel at a jobsite when the cart came into contact with a base plate on the ground. This caused the cart to tip over, and the bundles of steel to fall onto our client's foot, causing a severe crush injury. Our client underwent multiple surgeries and was ultimately prevented from going back to work as an Ironworker.

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\$625,000 Settlement for Fall Injury Caused by Faulty Railing

Associate Patrick Blum obtained a \$625,000 settlement for a 55-year-old man who suffered injuries, requiring surgery, after falling nearly six feet to the ground due to a faulty railing.

The man was attempting to hang a potted plant from a hook located above his garage door when he fell and suffered injuries. He lived in a housing development managed by a homeowners association that was named as the defendant.

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Trial Win for Workers' Compensation Benefits

Associate Hayley Graham tried the first in-person workers' compensation hearing during the COVID-19 pandemic in Chicago on June 15. Hayley received a very favorable award of all benefits at trial.

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Top 50 Personal Injury Verdicts Award

Congratulations to Associate Lisa M. Ciharan whose \$500,000 verdict was named among the Top 50 Personal Injury Verdicts in Illinois in 2019. The \$500,000 verdict tied for 22 among the 50 verdicts.

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ANESIOZMON | WELCOMES



DAVID FIGLIOLI

Partner

We are delighted to welcome David Figlioli to AORNK as a partner and workers' compensation attorney. David originally joined AORNK in 1990, where he spent eight years focusing on workers' rights and supporting those injured by reckless, negligent, and careless individuals and entities.

He left AORNK in 1998 to establish his own firm, where he spent the bulk of his time handling workers' compensation claims, firefighter and police officer disability pension claims, and claims involving the Public Safety Employee Benefits Act (PSEBA) and the Public Employees Disability Act (PEDA). He also handled a variety of personal injury claims.

Prior to practicing law, Dave attended Concordia University, where he achieved his undergraduate degree in education. He later enrolled at the John Marshall Law School, where he earned his Juris Doctorate, graduating magna cum laude.

Backed by decades of experience, Dave brings ample amounts of knowledge and experience to our firm. Since 2002, he has maintained an AV® Rating by Martindale-Hubbell®, and holds memberships in several associations, including the Illinois State Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association, the Justinian Society of Lawyers, the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, and the Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association. Additionally, he is on the Board of Managers for the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association. He has been selected for inclusion to the Super Lawyer and Leading Lawyer Networks.

CHARLIE A. TERRY

Associate

Charlie focuses his practice on advocating for the rights of his clients who have either suffered injuries or death due to the negligence, carelessness, and omissions of others. Charlie has been a trial lawyer since graduating from Chicago Kent College of Law, and he began his practice with a prestigious civil defense firm in Chicago, Illinois. Charlie's experience working for this nationally renowned defense firm allows him to bring a unique perspective to the table. Charlie will work hard to pursue claims on behalf of his clients by utilizing the invaluable experience he gained while in



the defense field to strategically advocate for his clients.

Charlie earned his J.D. from Chicago Kent College of Law and obtained his undergraduate degree from DePaul University, where he graduated magna cum laude. While in law school, Charlie clerked for a prestigious plaintiff's firm in Chicago, during which time he began his career advocating for the rights of injured parties.

Charlie is licensed to practice law in the U.S. District Court Northern District of Illinois, the State of Illinois, and the U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan.



BREANA BRILL

Law Clerk

We are also excited to welcome Breana Brill, who has joined Anesi Ozmon as a law clerk.

Breana is a rising third-year student at Chicago-Kent College of Law. She previously worked at Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, and Chicago-Kent Law Group – Family Law Clinic.

ANESIOZMON | UPDATES

Court Updates During COVID-19

By Hayley K. Graham

Anesi Ozmon has continued to adapt to the changing landscape of the legal practice during this extraordinary time. Our attorneys have learned to navigate virtual court appearances and depositions. Our dedicated support staff has adapted to changes in court filing procedures. Our entire team has implemented new strategies for working remotely.

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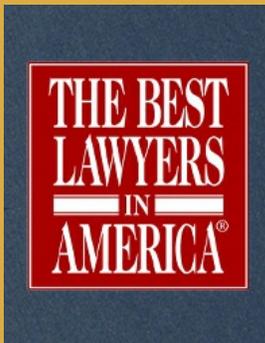
In case you missed our Labor Day blog, please [click here](#).



AORNK Top Lawyers 2020

Congratulations to Jennifer Kelly, Lisa Ciharan and Hayley Graham our Leading & Emerging WOMEN Lawyers who will be recognized in *Chicago Lawyer Magazine's* Diversity Issue.

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AORNK Best Lawyers 2021

Congratulations to Doug Colby, Mark Novak and John Popelka for being recognized by their peers in the 27th Edition of Best Lawyers in America ©. Doug and John have been selected for their work in Workers' Compensation Law, while Mark has been selected for his work in Personal Injury Litigation.

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Paola Earns Her MBA

Congratulations to Anesi Ozmon Administrator Paola Villarreal on earning her MBA from the Kellstadt Graduate School of Business at DePaul University.

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Golf Outing Sponsorships

Anesi Ozmon was a proud sponsor of several recent golf outings supporting local trades.



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AORNK Celebrates Client Milestones

AORNK invites you to join us in celebrating life's achievements. Have you or your family member recently reached a milestone, such as an anniversary or graduation? If so, please share the story on our Facebook page for consideration to be featured in our next Newsletter.

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ANESIOZMON | TRIVIA

Which U.S. President changed the celebration of the Columbus Day national holiday from Oct. 12 to the second Monday in October?

For a chance to win, send us an email at attorney@anesilaw.com.

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About

Anesi Ozmon, Chicago's premier personal injury law firm since 1955, has earned its reputation for excellence by winning record jury verdicts and achieving multimillion-dollar settlements for its clients. For more than 60 years, the firm has limited its practice to representing people and their families who are injured or killed through the negligence of others. The firm concentrates in personal injury litigation including construction negligence, plant and pipeline explosions and workers' compensation claims; medical malpractice and nursing home abuse cases; automobile, motorcycle and trucking negligence cases; defective and dangerous product cases; federal litigation for railroad injuries; premises liability cases including slip and fall and dog bites; Social Security disability claims, as well as wills and estate planning, real estate transactions and other family law matters.

The firm has been one of the leaders of the trial bar for more than 60 years. It is recognized as a Tier 1 Best Law Firm for personal injury litigation and workers' compensation law by U. S. News and World Report. Many attorneys have been recognized as AV Preeminent Peer Review rated by Martindale-Hubbell, named Best Lawyers in America and featured in Illinois Leading Lawyers and Illinois Super Lawyers. The firm's associates have been recognized as Super Lawyer Rising Stars and Illinois Emerging Lawyers, and several of our attorneys have been featured in the annual Chicago Lawyer Women in Law edition of Chicago Lawyer magazine, highlighting women in leadership roles. Find more information at www.anesilaw.com.

