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- TRIAL LAWYERS -

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Get Outdoors During Winter WITH THESE FAMILY-FRIENDLY ST. LOUIS EVENTS

Winter has arrived, and chances are your kids are already tired of being cooped up indoors. If your little ones are bouncing off the walls, bundle everyone up and get outside. Yes, it's cold, but there's still lots of fun to be had — so much, in fact, that you'll likely forget all about the weather. Here are some events to check out.

Garden Glow

St. Louis has no shortage of family-friendly holiday light displays to take in, but if you're looking to get out of your car, none of them beat Garden Glow at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. Spanning about 1.3 miles, Garden Glow offers a chance to get some exercise while viewing more than a million lights on display. There are also photo opportunities and festive treats available. Garden Glow runs from Nov. 13-Jan. 8, and you can get your tickets at [Glow.MissouriBotanicalGarden.org](https://www.gardenofedison.org/garden-glow).

Holiday in the Park

Holiday in the Park takes place every year at Six Flags, and the regular theme park is transformed into a winter wonderland. While this is sure to be a lot of fun for kids at any time of day, going in the evening will give you an opportunity to view the impressive light displays. Other festive attractions include holiday-themed shows and foods. The event runs on select dates from Nov. 20-Jan. 2, and you can learn more at [SixFlags.com/stlouis/events/holiday-in-the-park-lights](https://www.sixflags.com/stlouis/events/holiday-in-the-park-lights).

The St. Louis Wheel

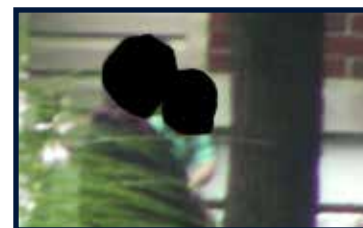
Located at Union Station, the St. Louis Wheel stands over 200 feet tall and offers a unique Ferris wheel experience with climate-controlled gondolas — making it perfect for those who are warily watching the temperature. As the wheel rotates during its 15-minute ride, you'll get a great view of the city from up high. Plus, there's plenty else to do in Union Station after the ride, including mini golf, a mirror maze, and the aquarium! Find out more at [TheStLouisWheel.com](https://www.thestlouiswheel.com).

So, get out your mittens and scarf and prepare to have a good time. You'll get some exercise, fresh air, and quality memories with your family. Who could ask for anything more?

CALLING OUT INSURANCE COMPANY HARASSMENT TO DEFEND OUR CLIENTS

It is one of the worst responses from the defense you can get. It goes right through me and makes me see red. Anger is never a good look in a courtroom, and tactics to elicit anger can be very effective against the one who loses their cool. What is it that gets me so upset?

Video surveillance of my clients. I've written about this before, and it is almost always distorted and misleading. The mere fact that an insurance company (and it is ALWAYS an insurance company) would hire a person to stalk someone else is sickening. And I definitely mean "stalk." Here are some snippets from a recent case of the surveillance the defense is legally required to send to us:



It includes videos of our client's children, her neighbors, and friends. I say "stalking" because who else drives by homes in the early morning hours, follows you to the grocery store, the hardware store and films your kids? That is a stalker. Not to mention, my client is not in one single photo. These are all the wrong people the insurance company filmed, including young girls. Where else is it okay for a grown man to hide in his car on a residential street and secretly videotape young girls? Where is this acceptable? Nowhere but in the minds of insurance company representatives wishing to save a buck.

Now, to be fair, the insurance stalker did "catch" my client on film. They "caught" her walking her in-laws out after a

family barbecue, taking a family picture, carrying a lamp shade, and opening the door for her husband when he came home from work. Big catch.

Why do insurance companies continue to do this type of stalking? Because we let them. We

let them intimidate our clients. We let them make our clients feel scared and paranoid. Juries don't tell defense teams that this behavior is unacceptable. Juries let insurance corporations sell some bogus reason for this type of behavior and write it off as "corporations just doing their job." No, they are not. Verdicts are what make a difference. These companies only respond to verdicts.

For those who ask, "What are the insurance companies supposed to do?" let me explain the rules of civil procedure that govern our courts. The defense gets every medical record and, many times, their own medical authorization to get any record in the case. They also get to depose the plaintiff for hours on end. The plaintiff also has to fill out forms called interrogatories from the defendant, which list all medical providers, claimed injuries, lost wages, addresses lived at, jobs held, etc. They can also depose the plaintiff's spouse or whomever they want, get Facebook information, Instagram info, gym records, etc. In addition, every single defense team gets to handpick their own doctor whom the plaintiff is forced to be evaluated by. That doctor(s) gets every single medical record in the case, the police report, the depositions, all of it. And that doctor gets to evaluate the plaintiff without anyone watching. And then that doctor gets to write a report with whatever they want to say.

So, why the stalking? Fear and bullying, that is why. And our office is committed to meeting this harassment head on.

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Rudolph, You'll Go Down in History

Behind the Evergreen Christmas Special

You know Dasher and Dancer, and you definitely know Rudolph. Everyone's favorite red-nosed reindeer was first born as a 1939 short story, but he truly shot to fame when his tale was adapted into a song by Gene Autry in 1949. Rivaling even the song's fame is the Rankin/Bass stop-motion special that airs like clockwork every year around Christmas.

Generations have now grown up with Rudolph, so it may be surprising to learn that his journey to the small screen started as a General Electric promotion. The company had a running television special on NBC called the "GE Fantasy Hour," which they used to market their products directly to viewers. The better the story they told, the more viewers they got — and the more toasters they could sell.

The script introduced new characters like Hermey the elf, Yukon Cornelius the prospector, and Bumble the abominable snowman. GE hired Japanese animators to create the film using stop-motion techniques that were highly advanced for the time. GE invested the modern equivalent of \$4.5 million into the production of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"; the special first aired in 1964.

Those who are familiar with the film know that it ends with Rudolph enlisting Santa to save the Misfit Toys from earlier in the movie — but it didn't originally. The version that aired in 1964 concludes with Rudolph leading Santa's sleigh but forgetting all about his homeless friends. The backlash was swift, and viewers wrote in to express displeasure at the heartless resolution. GE decided the special had to be corrected and played again with the proper ending in 1965. And so, a tradition of annual airings was born.

Today, "Rudolph" is the longest-running Christmas special in history, and our favorite misfit deer shows no signs of slowing down after 57 years. The movie has transformed into a marketing bonanza, with new Christmas decorations, figurines, and toys being produced each year.

Though it's somewhat shocking to our modern sensibilities to see Santa bullying his reindeer employees and their children, fond childhood memories mean that parents continue to pass the special down to their kids.

Even as we recognize its flaws, the dazzling animation and famous songs continue to bring joy and Christmas spirit to households around the country.

Katy Perry's Legal Battle With Nuns

Fighting for Convent Real Estate



Katy Perry is known around the globe for having multiple No. 1 hits, including "I Kissed A Girl," "Teenage Dream," and "Firework," but two nuns in Los Angeles know Perry for a completely different reason. They were in a multiyear legal battle with Perry and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles over the purchase of a convent.

In 1972, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary pooled their money and purchased an eight-acre, French-style chateau in Los Angeles. Sisters Rita Callanan and Catherine Rose Holzman lived in the chateau-turned-convent until 2011, when the Archdiocese of Los Angeles reportedly forced them to relocate.

Two years later, Archbishop José Gomez sold the property to Perry without any input from the sisters, but the nuns felt that the archdiocese did not have the right to do this. Gomez accepted a \$14.5 million cash offer from Perry, but the nuns refused to sell to her. Believing they had sole ownership of the convent, they instead sold it to restaurateur and developer Dana Hollister.

The archdiocese and Perry both sued Hollister for her involvement, claiming she took advantage of the nuns, and a judge invalidated her purchase months after it was made. A Los Angeles Superior Court judge ruled in favor of the archdiocese, creating an opportunity for Perry to buy the estate

due to the fact that the nuns did not have the approval of the pope, the Holy See, or the archbishop.

In 2017, a jury found that Hollister intentionally interfered with Perry's legal purchase. She was ordered to pay both Perry and the archdiocese millions of dollars. The sisters continued to support Hollister, and they both accompanied her to bankruptcy court, where Sister Holzman collapsed and died during the court proceeding. Sister Callanan blamed Perry for the death of Holzman.

The convent is back on the market, and it does not appear that Perry will move forward with the purchase.

Drinking and Driving Don't Mix

TIPS TO STAY SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Drunk driving is a big problem in the U.S. In 2016, there were 10,497 fatalities from drunk drivers, or 29 deaths per day. Moreover, surveys estimate 111 million alcohol-impaired driving incidents per year, but statistics show only about 1 million alcohol-related traffic stops.

During the holiday season, a lot of people like to let loose and toss back a few drinks. Unfortunately, far too many of them get behind the wheel afterward. New Year's Day is considered the most dangerous day of the year when it comes to drunk driving, and since Christmas Eve and Christmas Day fall on a Friday and Saturday this year, experts expect holiday rates of impaired driving to be more prevalent than usual.

A lot of people who drive under the influence don't set out to do so. They drive to an event with the intention of having one or two drinks, but they start having a good time and think they can handle a few more. Before they know it, they're too intoxicated to drive but feel like there's no other way to get home.

When you're under the influence, you're not thinking your best. That's why it's important to have a plan to get home in advance. Yes, it will be annoying to leave your car at the bar overnight and pick it up the next day — but that inconvenience is nothing compared to the death or injury that can result from drunk driving.

If you know you'll be drinking, it's best to not drive at all; take a bus or rideshare to and from your destination. Once you're intoxicated, nothing will make you sober except time. A designated driver is a great option, but you should be careful to never get into a car with another person who's been drinking. Finally, if you think you might be too impaired to drive, you are — don't risk it.

If you've been injured by an impaired driver's negligence, we're here to help. Having an experienced lawyer on your side can make all the difference in the outcome of your claim. At Finney Injury Law, we genuinely care about our clients and will provide you with compassionate representation. Contact our team today.

ORANGE CRANBERRY MIMOSA MOCKTAIL



Inspired by Rhubarbarians.com

It's essential to include a festive drink in your holiday celebration, but the booze is optional. Take part in the fun while staying ready to drive with this cheery mocktail. (For an alcoholic version, just add vodka.)

INGREDIENTS

- Sugar
- Ice
- 1 oz freshly squeezed orange juice
- 2 oz sweetened cranberry juice
- 2 oz sparkling apple cider
- 1 pinch ground cinnamon
- Fresh cranberries and rosemary sprig for garnish

DIRECTIONS

1. In a bowl or dish of your choice, pour sugar at least 1/8" high.
2. Wet the rim of a champagne glass, dip and twirl in sugar, and place right side up.
3. Add ice, if preferred.
4. Add orange juice, cranberry juice, and sparkling apple cider to the glass.
5. Top with a pinch of cinnamon.
6. Garnish with fresh cranberries and a rosemary sprig.

YOUR REFERRALS MEAN THE WORLD TO US

There is no greater compliment we can receive than a client telling a friend or loved one about us. If you know somebody who has been injured and needs an attorney who will fight on their behalf and give their case the attention it deserves, please pass along this newsletter and have them give us a call at 314-293-4222. Thank you for spreading the word about Finney Injury Law.