



LAW OFFICE OF KENNETH E. BERGER, LLC

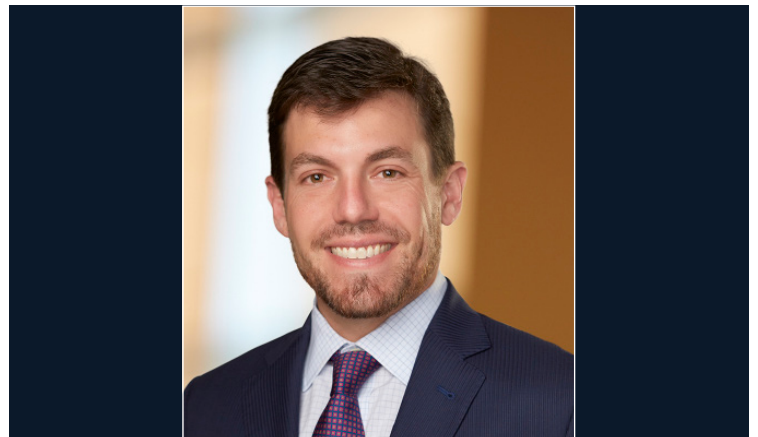
October 2018 Newsletter

SAFETY FIRST
JUSTICE ALWAYS

“In the Blink of an Eye”

I remember getting a phone call at a friend’s house when I was 13, and in the blink of an eye, I knew that my life would forever be different. There had been no injury, no death, but a family tragedy nonetheless. I wiped away a couple tears, walked outside, and went back to playing basketball as if nothing happened. Life kept going and my family recovered, though not without a scar.

Fast forward to the present day and I find myself in an office where I still get those calls, only from other people’s families and in relation to life-changing accidents. In the blink of an eye, a life has been taken or altered because of someone else’s choices. My job is to help. That means listening before speaking, caring more about human beings than contingency fees, and taking time to learn the human story that is at the center of every case. I’m blessed to be in a position to serve others and guide them through what at times can be a maze of legal issues.



Hardly a day passes without reminders that life is fragile. Those reminders motivate me to show love, work hard, and try to have as much fun along the way as possible. I hope these words do the same for you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ken'.

FOR REFERRING ATTORNEYS:

If you are one of our many referring attorneys, we want to thank you for allowing us to serve. Your trust means a great deal.

We seek to strengthen your relationship with the client by providing him/her with a great experience, as well as a great result. Additionally, we always make it a point to emphasize that you are truly the person to thank, as it was your good judgment that allowed us to take part in their representation.

If questions arise in the coming month concerning a life-changing injury or wrongful death case, we are here to help. From simply answering your questions to being associated on or referred the case, please let us know what we can do to benefit you and the client. Likewise, if you have a potential client call us directly, be sure to have him/her say who made the referral so we know who to thank.

To discuss anything from litigation tactics to our core values, call us at (803) 790-2800 or email kberger@bergerlawsc.com.

BEST AMONG US:

Charlie Walters, Able SC

We are excited and proud to feature our friend, Charlie Walters, as this month's Best Among Us. Charlie is the Director of Transitions Programs for Able SC. After earning his master's degree in special education from USC, Charlie joined Able SC to address the systemic issues and everyday challenges that youth with disabilities face in South Carolina.

Able SC is a Center for Independent Living, an organization created to empower individuals with disabilities to live independent, self-determined lives, that offers its services throughout the Midlands and Upstate. Within Able SC, Charlie oversees all youth transition programs - programs that prepare young people for the transition from school to post-school life through one-on-one skill-building support, peer mentoring, in-class skill building for SC schools, and professional training. To learn more about Able SC and their many programs and services for people with disabilities of any age, visit their website at www.able-sc.org.



Charlie is pictured here with Able SC's executive director, Kimberly Tissot.

FIRM SNAPSHOT:

Kenny Selected for the 2018 Legal Elite of the Midlands

We're proud and honored to announce that Kenny was selected for Columbia Business Monthly's 2018 Legal Elite of the Midlands. He was also the top vote-getter amongst his peers in the field of personal injury.

This award is especially gratifying because the winners are chosen by the votes of more than 1,000 attorneys across South Carolina. It is the only award program in the region that gives every active attorney the opportunity to participate.

We're honored to have the trust and support of so many great attorneys in our state. This recognition will drive us to work even harder in the coming year.



CASE RESULT:

18 Wheelers, Drunk Drivers, & Our Roadways

This section of our newsletter is usually dedicated to a specific case result. Over the last two months, however, we've had a number of cases that involve either tractor-trailers or intoxicated drivers. So instead of highlighting one case, I wanted to call attention to what can be done to combat the dangers posed by both trucking companies and drunk driving.

First, it's time lawmakers revisit the qualifications necessary to get behind the wheel of a tractor-trailer. As it stands, getting a commercial driver's license and being given the keys to a 75,000 lb. vehicle is much easier than obtaining a job with far less public safety implications. Trucking companies often hide behind minimal standards to get more and more drivers, and more and more trucks out on the road. What does that lead to? More collisions and more otherwise preventable harm to innocent people.

Second, our courts should take a tougher stand when it comes to the legal responsibilities of the companies that "broker" deals between shippers and trucking companies. Often times, the broker is getting the best end of the deal, while also turning a blind eye to the trucking company's safety record. Until these transportation brokers are held accountable for giving jobs to the most dangerous trucking outfits – often because they are the smallest and cheapest – it will be business as usual, and the threat will continue.

Third, we can all call on our legislators and judges to finally get tough on drunk driving. I knew DUI was a problem, but was surprised to learn just how much of an epidemic it remains despite MADD, Uber, and increased public awareness. The numbers do not lie. For instance, over the last 10 years, more than 100,000 Americans have been killed by intoxicated drivers (more than 10,000 of them were children). In economic terms, drunk driving costs the United States more than \$44 billion annually. It is the equivalent of a war on our roadways – and we are losing. As a community, we need to go on the offensive against intoxicated drivers and the establishments that profit by overserving them. That starts with ensuring that laws are not only made, but enforced. So long as the vast majority of drunk drivers and bars get away with a slap on the wrist or a stern warning "not to do it again," it will happen again and again and again. It's time we stand together and say in a single voice, "Enough. It stops now, and it stops here."

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OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

CLIENT REVIEW:

5.0 ★★★★★

via Google

Annie H. from Irmo, SC

“The entire staff at the Law Office of Kenneth Berger went above and beyond from the beginning of my case to even after it was settled. I came seeking an attorney after having been in a car accident where I suffered from a serious injury, and with their help, I was able to have peace of mind knowing that I was being taken care of. Any time that a hard decision had to be made in my case, the Law Office of Kenneth Berger never once pressured me into a specific choice and made me feel like I had total authority of where my case would go. They treat you like family and truly work to get you the best results for your case. I highly recommend them to anyone and would use them again in a heartbeat!”

