



MAX MEYERS LAW **SPOKE & WHEEL**



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ELECTION OF Washington Supreme Court Judges – Max's Picks

The November election is approaching and the mail-in ballots will be arriving soon. In Washington, we elect our judges at all levels. I am often asked about my thoughts on the contested judicial races, so I'm taking the liberty to share my recommendations with you. Of course, please also feel free to get additional information on these candidates from your voter's pamphlet as well as a website with great information, www.votingforjudges.org. But most importantly, make sure you vote and fill in your ballot all the way down! **Make your vote count.**

Here are my recommendations for the three Supreme Court contested races. I support:

Supreme Court Position #1 - Justice Mary Yu. Justice Yu is a distinguished jurist, former prosecutor, and former social justice organizer, who is unique among all candidates for having received the highest possible rating from every peer and legal group, judge of the year from every major bar organization that gives such an award, and also received a public official of the year award from the Municipal League.

Supreme Court Position #5 - Justice Barbara Madsen. As a distinguished Chief Justice, chosen for this role by her colleagues on the court, Barbara is the leader of a court we can be proud of- rated by conservative and liberal legal scholars alike as among the top three state courts in our nation.

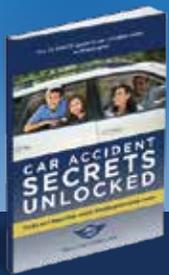
Supreme Court Position #6 - Justice Charlie Wiggins. Justice Wiggins is a recognized national leader on the issue of judicial ethics, has extremely high ratings from all the Bar groups, and has been

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KANGS FOOTBALL AUCTION



I recently had the opportunity to attend the **Kangs Football Auction** on October 1st at the **Woodmark Hotel Marina Room in Kirkland**. A silent and live auction were held with the proceeds benefiting the high school and the junior football programs. It was a great evening! A lifelong dream of mine was also fulfilled at this event... **I had the opportunity to meet one of my favorite Seahawks players of all time, Walter Jones!!**



FREE INSTANT DOWNLOAD

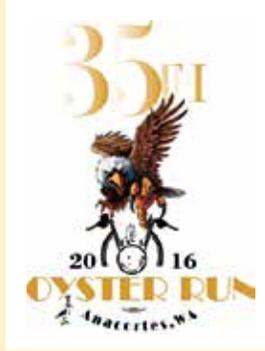
Discover the secrets insurance companies don't want you to know.

Get Max's book **The Ultimate Guide to Car Accident Cases in Washington: Car Accident Secrets Unlocked.**

Go to our website www.WaCarAccident.com to get your free download now or call **425.276.7804** to have a copy mailed to you.

the most prolific writer and workhorse on our court during his term. He is perhaps the most experienced appellate lawyer on the bench, a stark contrast to an opponent with very little appellate experience.

If you would like further information on why I support these particular judges, please feel free to call me at any time.



THANK YOU to all of you who came out to see us at the **Annual Oyster Run on September 25th in Anacortes!**

We had a lot of visitors come by our booth to enter our GoPro camera and handlebar mount giveaway.

Our winner was Howard Olson. **Congratulations Howard!**

THE BIAS AGAINST BIKERS in Accident Claims or Lawsuits

Look at the news coverage for a motorcycle accident and you will often find bias against the motorcyclist. Motorcycle riders get a bad reputation for being reckless, involved in criminal activity, and more. But while this just sounds like a bad media reputation, this bias against bikers can become a critical part of a motorcyclist's ability to pursue an injury claim or lawsuit.

THE EFFECTS OF BIAS ON MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT CASES

Society's knee-jerk reaction to a motorcycle is often that the motorcyclist was being reckless and caused his injuries. The truth is, most motorcyclists are responsible riders. It is only a few bad apples that spoil the bunch with modified mufflers and wheelies on public streets.

Historically, juries tend to favor victims in a passenger vehicle over an injured motorcyclist. The insurance companies know this and use that knowledge to underpay settlements on motorcycle accidents. Motorists are also likely to argue that the motorcyclist was engaging in reckless behavior before the accident occurred, predisposing the jury to favor the motorist.

ELEMENTS OF BIAS IN MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS

Bias can come from any number of factors in your motorcycle accident case. While eyewitnesses might be helpful in providing a different perspective of the events leading to your accident, they can often be mistaken about what they think they saw. Some eyewitnesses with an existing bias against bikers might claim you were acting recklessly and caused the accident.

Helmet use is also another extreme source of bias. Some jurors and insurance adjusters equate wearing smaller type helmet to reckless behavior. The same goes for bikes modified to make higher levels of noise. Finally, there is the rider's reputation. If a rider has a past affiliation with an outlaw motorcycle club, gang or violent crime, it is more likely that juries will see him as the cause of the accident rather than the victim.

Danny Cevallos, a legal analyst for CNN, reported on a 2013 accident in New York involving an injured biker run over by an SUV after he made a sudden stop. When this accident occurred, the media jumped on the biker as being reckless because the group he was riding with chased down the fleeing SUV and jumped the driver. The media judgment was apparent before law enforcement made any decisions on who was guilty of what crimes.

In his article, Cevallos states, "Motorbike enthusiasts, on the whole, get a bad rap. A minority of them cause trouble, sometimes a lot of trouble, which causes an underserved prejudice against the majority. And that prejudice can subtly influence law enforcement, just as it can the public at large."

WHAT CAN MOTORCYCLISTS DO TO OVERCOME BIAS IN THEIR INJURY CASE?

The best defense is solid evidence based on Washington state law. It starts with knowing your rights and identifying evidence to prove that you were operating your motorcycle within the parameters of the law. Video evidence is extremely helpful, as it gives an unbiased look at how the accident occurred. I'm a big fan of mounting a GoPro on your handlebars.

Insurance adjusters receive special training to reduce your settlement value by getting you to admit fault for an accident. They often ask leading questions that get you to unintentionally admit to contributing to the accident. **Before you talk an insurance company adjuster, talk to an attorney.**

Having an experienced motorcycle accident attorney can really help you bring out the truth by performing an unbiased accident investigation. Do not count on eyewitness statements or police reports to give an accurate account of the accident. Your attorney will advise you on the best course of legal action for your case and can help make sure your medical bills are paid and negotiate a fair settlement when the time is right.

Do not let the bias against motorcyclists in accidents ruin your chances for compensation. Our legal team will help you develop a solid case based on facts and evidence that the insurance company or jury cannot discredit.



If you've been involved in a motorcycle accident caused by another driver call Max at 425-276-7804 for a free consult before doing anything else!

Shelly's RECIPE CORNER



Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake Dip

Photo courtesy of anightowlblog.com

Easy to make and a fun holiday appetizer... the Apple Cup would be a perfect occasion to give this recipe a try!

Ingredients:

¾ cup International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer
1 - 3.4 oz. package pumpkin spice instant pudding
1 - 8oz package cream cheese, softened

¼ cup granulated sugar
2 cups frozen whipped topping, thawed
Graham cracker crumbs for garnish

Directions:

In a bowl, whisk together the International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer with pumpkin spice instant pudding. Set aside for about 5 minutes.

In a mixing bowl, beat together the softened cream cheese and sugar.

Add in pudding to cream cheese mixture and beat.

Once well combined, fold in the 2 cups of thawed whipped topping and refrigerate.

When ready to serve, fill bowl with Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake Dip topped with graham cracker crumbs.

Note: If you can't find pumpkin spice instant pudding (it is seasonal), you can use either vanilla or cheesecake instant pudding with a teaspoon of pumpkin pie spice.

November EVENTS CALENDAR

Veterans Day Parade NOV 5

The Veterans Day Parade & Observance in Auburn is one of America's biggest, with veterans' units, military vehicles, drill teams, 25 marching bands, floats, antique cars, and a military fly-over. Also see related events on their page. Free.

Visit www.auburnwa.gov/things_to_do/community/vdp_s_p213.htm for more details.

Antique and Collectibles Show NOV 5-6

Billed as America's Largest Antique & Collectible Show, this event has 400 vendors selling furniture, glassware, slot machines, movie memorabilia, estate jewelry, paintings, mechanical banks, and toys at the Washington State Fair Events Center.

Visit the <http://christinepalmer.net/> for more details.

Free National Parks Day NOV 11

Entry is free at Mount Rainier and Olympic National Parks on Free Entrance in the National Parks. Expect more people and less parking than usual.

Visit www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm for details and schedule.

Used Snow Gear Swap NOV 11-12

Newport Snowsports Swap is a huge consignment sale at Newport High School in Bellevue. Free.

For details and information visit www.skiswap.info/.

French Wine Festival NOV 18

Enjoy French food, music, spirits, and Beaujolais Nouveau with views at the Columbia Tower Club.

Visit <https://beaujolaisnouveau.wordpress.com/> for details.

Empty Bowls Fundraiser NOV 19

Buy a handmade bowl, and then get another bowl full of soup at Empty Bowls at Charles Wright Academy in Tacoma.

Visit www.efoodnet.org/event/empty-bowls-2-2/ for details.

Native Craft Fair NOV 25-27

Shop for fine art, native crafts, cards, jewelry, and smoked salmon at the Native Holiday Gift Fair at the Duwamish Longhouse in West Seattle. Free.

Get info at www.facebook.com/events/896724137084205/.

Seattle Marathon NOV 27

Join 15,000 people burning off Thanksgiving calories at the morning Seattle Marathon and Half Marathon that begin and end near Seattle Center.

Visit www.seattlemarathon.org/amica-insurance-seattle-marathon for more details.



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VETERANS DAY
IS NOVEMBER 11

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DON'T FORGET!

*Daylight Savings ends at
2:00am on
Sunday, November 6.*

Turn clocks back 1 hour.



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