



MAX MEYERS LAW SPOKE & WHEEL



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It's time to

VOTE!



Here are our recommendations for Judges up for Election.

Ballots arrive in mid-October. Most people don't have a clue which Judges to vote for or avoid. As you can guess we are biased in favor of judges who look out for the little guy more than corporations.

We prefer judges who we believe will give injury victims in vehicle accidents a fair day in court. Judges who believe people's injuries deserve fair compensation and they

should be able to tell their whole story in court if so needed to get fair compensation after a vehicle accident. We prefer judges who have represented the little guy and not just defendant corporations. It's important that a judge is sympathetic to both sides and gives each side their fair day in court.

Here are our recommendations:

Washington Supreme Court -	Grace Helen Whitener (Pos. 6) Raquel Montoya-Lewis (Pos. 3)
Washington Appellate Court, Div. 3 -	Marshall Casey
King County Superior Court -	Andrea Robertson (Pos. 13) Douglas North (Pos. 30)
Snohomish County Superior Court -	Cassandra Lopez Shaw
Pierce County Superior Court -	Bryan Chushcoff
Clallam County Superior Court -	Lisa Dublin
Garfield County Superior Court -	Dave Petersen
Grant County Superior Court -	Kevin McCrae
Island County Superior Court -	Carolyn Cliff
Kitsap County Superior Court -	Lynn FleischBein
Skagit County Superior Court -	Elizabeth Yost Neidzwski
Thurston County Superior Court -	Sharonda Amamilo
Walla Walla County Superior Court -	Mike Mitchell
Whatcom County Superior Court -	James Erb (Pos. 2) David Freeman (Pos. 4)
Yakima County Superior Court -	Elisabeth Tutsch (Dept. 2) Douglas Federspiel (Dept. 3) Blaine George Gibson (Dept. 4)

Celebrate Halloween SAFELY during COVID

Halloween is one of our very favorite holidays to celebrate here at MML. Many people are wondering if Halloween will be canceled all together this year due to the COVID pandemic?! We just think that would be really sad... especially since Halloween falls on a Saturday this year, so we found some great ideas on how to safely celebrate our beloved Halloween without missing out on all the fun!

Trick-or-treating ideas -

If you can't trick or treat the traditional way due to the pandemic, look for ways to manage it creatively. You can buy your kiddo's favorite candy and let them trick-or-treat door-to-door within your house, or have them walk through the neighborhood so they can show off their costumes, then come home to a special treat or toy.

Find a safe way to give out treats -

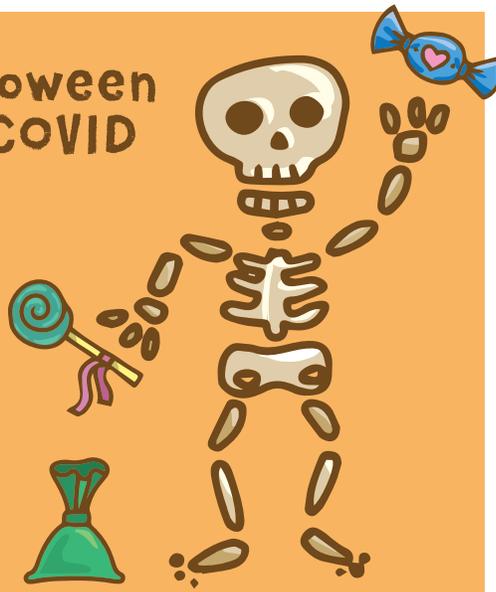
Try individually wrapping up treats and putting them out in your yard or on your stoop so there's space between the bags for people to easily pick them up. You can put them on a blanket on the lawn or a table on your driveway or porch. And if you're game to go through a lot of hand sanitizer and wear a mask, you could still hand out the treats yourself.

Use a "mask" as part of your costume -

This is the year to break out your ninja costume - or slip a second safety mask under your Michael Myers or ghost masks: whatever you can do to make a Halloween costume with a mask.

Party outside -

Outdoors (and small) is best if you want to throw a Halloween party. Masking and social distancing are still important. Food and drinks should be prepackaged or in single servings and hand sanitizers should be readily accessible. Setting up chairs and tables so that everyone can be social but



still maintain space between each other should be considered.

Research events before attending -

If you're a big fan of picking pumpkins, hay mazes, costume parades, and haunted houses, you may still be able to take part. But do your research beforehand to see how they're planning to make it safer (such as limiting participants or requiring masks), to see if you're comfortable with their plans. And as with everything else, outdoors is better.

Get creative! -

There are plenty of ways to get your Halloween on, so think outside the box. Set up a movie projector and screen and host a marathon of your favorite Halloween movies on Netflix in your backyard for a few friends, or host a Zoom dance party where your friends can gather and learn the "Thriller" choreography or do the "Time Warp" all together!

Be safe and we hope you have a very Happy Halloween!



7 PERFECT DRIVES FOR A FALL DAY

Football, pumpkin spice lattes and Halloween... these are all things we love about this time of the year.

Fall in the Pacific Northwest is a great time to see some of nature's beauty. If you are looking to get out of the house, we highly recommend you check out these 7 scenic drives this Fall!

ENUMCLAW TO PARADISE

The 147-mile route from Enumclaw along SR 410 through Cayuse Pass is breathtaking this time of year. And it takes you straight to Mt. Rainier, which gets some spectacular fall foliage.

CHUCKANUT DRIVE

Chuckanut Drive runs north from Burlington to Bellingham and features colorful maples and views of the San Juan Islands. In other words, it's a perfect scenic drive in Autumn.

YAKIMA RIVER CANYON SCENIC BYWAY

Meander through the canyon along the Yakima River and check out the gorgeous scenery that looks especially vibrant in the fall. This is the perfect Sunday drive in early to mid-October.

HOOD CANAL LOOP

This scenic loop includes a ferry ride or two, so plan accordingly. From Bremerton, you'll pass Belfair, Hoodport, Brinnon and Quilcene before reaching Bainbridge Island, enjoying the fall colors and Hood Canal every bit of the way.



HIGHWAY 2 FROM MONROE TO LEAVENWORTH

Leavenworth and Stevens Pass are absolutely incredible in the fall. If you live anywhere near Leavenworth, an annual autumn day trip or two is an absolute must.

GREEN BLUFF

Green Bluff is a small community near Spokane that really comes alive in the fall. Check out the views by following US 2 and WA-206 to Mead, then finding Green Bluff Road.

WHIDBEY ISLAND SCENIC BYWAY

Take the ferry to Whidbey Island this fall, and take your car. Whidbey Island Scenic Byway takes you from the town of Clinton over Deception Pass, showing off mountain and water views among old growth Douglas fir and big leaf maple trees.

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WHY ARE SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENTS DIFFERENT THAN CAR ACCIDENTS?

Truck accidents are different from car accidents for multiple reasons. Trucks are cars on a much bigger scale, which means all of the issues that come along with a truck accident are usually bigger as well.

These issues include:

TRUCK ACCIDENTS ARE OFTEN MORE SEVERE

While car accidents are much more common than truck accidents, truck accidents are more often catastrophic or deadly. According to 2012 statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for each occupant of a large truck who died in a crash, 33 other people outside of the truck were killed.

Truck accidents often result in:

- Traumatic brain injuries/skull fractures
- Spinal cord injuries
- Crushing injuries
- Broken bones
- Amputations
- Death



With more severe injuries comes higher medical bills and weeks or months of lost wages. In some cases, victims are never able to return to work and require long-term care.

TRUCK ACCIDENTS CAN HAVE SEVERAL DIFFERENT LIABLE PARTIES

When you are in a car accident, you or the other driver are typically the only potentially liable parties. However, in an accident involving a large truck, there might be two or three different liable parties.

First, the trucking company is likely to be the liable party, even if the truck driver is 100 percent responsible for the collision. This is because, under the doctrine of vicarious liability, employers are responsible for their employees' actions, so long as the employee acted within the scope of his employment. This is true in almost every case, unless the driver was an independent contractor or was acting outside of his employment (e.g., took his truck to the bar after work and caused an accident coming home).

The trucking company can also be directly liable for negligent maintenance or negligent hiring. In some cases, a truck part manufacturer or the truck's maintenance team might also be responsible.

THE INVESTIGATION PROCESS IS DIFFERENT

After a truck accident, there will be multiple investigations. In addition to the usual accident report filed by law enforcement, there might also be an investigation by the

trucking company and by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

This can become confusing if all three investigations come to separate conclusions. We can also work with an accident investigator to establish exactly how the accident occurred.



THE TRUCKING COMPANY HAS THE EVIDENCE YOU NEED

Truck accidents are often more difficult because the trucking company has much of the evidence you need to prove fault, including:

- Hours of service logs
- Data from the truck's electronic data recorder
- Drug and alcohol test results
- The driver's personnel file
- The truck's maintenance records
- The truck itself

And it only gets more difficult from here. Federal laws allow trucking companies to destroy evidence after a certain period of

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Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

Pumpkin Pie Dump Cake

Try this easy Fall dessert... a little twist on traditional pumpkin pie!

Ingredients:

- 1 (15oz) can pumpkin puree (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1 (12oz) can evaporated milk
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 box spice cake mix
- 2 sticks butter (melted)
- Whipped cream for topping (optional)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9x13 baking dish.

In a large bowl, whisk together the pumpkin puree, evaporated milk, eggs, sugar and cinnamon until smooth and well combined. Pour the pumpkin mixture into your greased baking dish.

Evenly sprinkle the dry cake mix over top. Drizzle the melted butter over the cake mix.

Bake for 55-60 minutes. Let cool on the counter for at least an hour and then cover and place in the fridge.

Slice and serve with whipped cream.



Courtesy of instrupix.com



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Where Accident Victims Get Help

HAPPY
Halloween
from the team at
MML



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WHY ARE SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENTS DIFFERENT THAN CAR ACCIDENTS?

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time. This means that unless you discuss your case with a truck accident lawyer immediately, the trucking company could destroy evidence critical to your case.

TRUCKS HAVE DIFFERENT REGULATIONS THAN CARS

Trucks have different licensing and registration requirements than passenger cars. A different class of driver's license and specific training is required to drive a large commercial vehicle. Trucking companies and their drivers are subject to multiple federal regulations as well as state laws. Some of these regulations include:

- Only being able to drive for a certain number of hours
- How often trucking companies and drivers need to inspect their vehicles and cargo loads
- A much lower blood alcohol content limit (0.04 vs. 0.08)/drug and alcohol testing after certain accidents

- Handheld cell phone ban

A violation of almost any of these regulations can increase the likelihood of an accident. If we find that a rule violation caused or contributed to your accident, we can use it as proof of negligence.

HIGHER POTENTIAL PAYOUTS

Per 49 CFR § 387.303, the insurance requirements for commercial trucks are:

- Public liability insurance for such claims as bodily injury, property damage and environmental restoration: \$750,000 to \$5,000,000 based on the weight of the truck and whether the cargo is hazardous;
- Commercial vehicles transporting passengers: \$1,500,000 to \$5,000,000

This is much higher than Washington's minimum requirement of \$25,000 per person and \$50,000 per accident.

While the many potential liable parties and higher policy limits in a truck accident mean

you can recover a higher insurance payout, it also means you will be facing an uphill battle. The commercial insurance company and the trucking company will have lawyers on standby at all times, ready to jump in to defend against accident claims. This can be intimidating to a person who was injured in an accident involving a large truck.

GET HELP FROM A SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENT ATTORNEY NOW.

The investigations and claims processes are different in truck accidents. You should hire an attorney to help you as soon as possible! This is a complex, sophisticated area of law, and the cards are stacked against you if you try to handle your truck accident injury claim on your own without a lawyer.

We at Max Meyers Law PLLC will handle the investigators, the insurance companies, and the defense lawyers for you. Call us today at **425-276-7804** for your **free, no-obligation consultation**.



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