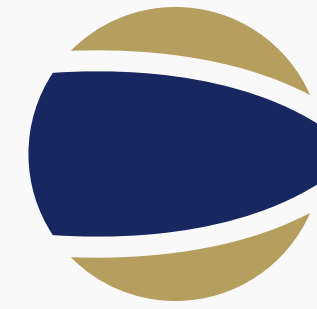




# The Newsletter



**Fall Issue**  
Volume 1

## Managing Partner Stephen D. Phillips to speak at 2022 ITLA Medical Malpractice Seminar

Phillips Law Offices managing partner, Stephen D. Phillips, has been selected as a featured speaker at the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association's annual Medical Malpractice Seminar. The seminar will be held on December 9, 2022 at the Westin River North in Chicago. This event is an opportunity for attorneys, judges, legal scholars, and law students to learn from some of the most successful personal injury attorneys in the field.

Mr. Phillips will draw on his 37 years of experience as a plaintiff's personal injury and medical malpractice attorney when he gives a presentation entitled, "No Leading! Direct Examination of Your Client and Witnesses." Stephen D. Phillips formerly served as the President of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association in 2013. He continues to serve on the executive committee.



MANAGING PARTNER, ATTORNEY  
STEPHEN D. PHILLIPS

## Phillips Law Offices Obtains Record \$9.6 million Medical Malpractice Settlement

Phillips Law Offices is pleased to announce a record \$9.6 million settlement for an arm amputation injury. On November 30, 2014, our client, a 55-year-old tool and die worker undergoing dialysis treatment, was administered calcium chloride through a pre-existing IV site in his left elbow by an ICU nurse. He began to show signs of calcium chloride leakage, although there was a delay in discovering it. As a result, our client received tissue damage in his left arm, resulting in permanent nerve injuries and the loss of function in his left wrist and fingers.

After multiple surgeries, skin grafting, and extensive physical therapy, he underwent below-the-elbow amputation on April 20, 2016. Phillips Law Offices attorney and partner, Terrence M. Quinn, argued that the hospital's nursing staff violated the standard of care, including the hospital's own policies and procedures, causing his permanent, life-altering injuries. A settlement was reached prior to trial, awarding plaintiff \$9.6 million – the highest known settlement for a one-arm amputation in the State of Illinois.



CASE HANDLED BY PARTNER,  
ATTORNEY TERENCE M. QUINN



We are thrilled to announce that our law clerk, Michael J. Phillips, passed the Illinois bar exam on his first attempt and has joined Phillips Law Offices as a licensed attorney. Michael was sworn-in to the Illinois Bar by the Illinois Supreme Court on November 17 and has already begun working as an attorney at Phillips Law Offices. Michael graduated from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 2022 where he was a 4-time recipient of Dean's List Honors. He achieved favorable verdicts in his trial practice class all five times he participated. While also going to school full-time, he worked tirelessly as a law clerk alongside his father and brother, Stephen D. and Stephen J. Phillips. During one of his winter breaks, he participated in a 10-day complex medical malpractice/wrongful death trial with Phillips Law Offices. Like his brother, Michael is a third-generation trial lawyer working at the firm that his grandfather, a Sicilian immigrant, started in 1945. He is committed to representing injured people, and we look forward to adding a new attorney to our team!

### Phillips Law Offices Files Lawsuit Against Cook Co. Hospital for Leaving Surgical Sponge in Patient

Phillips Law Offices has filed a lawsuit against Cook County Hospital on behalf of a cancer patient who had a sponge left inside his body. Following an abdominoperineal resection last year, our client experienced significant pain and discomfort amongst numerous other complaints and symptoms in the area of their surgery. Later imaging studies revealed that a surgical sponge had been left inside our client's body. This discovery meant that a subsequent operation was necessary to remove the retained sponge. We believe that medical providers are responsible for ensuring all surgical equipment is accounted for following a procedure, and we look forward to passionately pursuing this case on behalf of our client.



### Attorney Matthew J. Canna Celebrates One Year with Phillips Law Offices

The team at Phillips Law Offices is happy to congratulate attorney Matthew J. Canna on one year at Phillips Law Offices. Matthew joined the firm last November, and has been an invaluable team member since then. A native of the South Side of Chicago, Mr. Canna brought years of experience as a defense attorney to the firm. This knowledge of defense tactics and strategies has been invaluable as Matthew has brought a number of cases to trial and taken dozens of depositions for the firm. Matthew focuses on automobile and trucking negligence, construction negligence, premises liability, wrongful death, and medical malpractice cases. He has been a wonderful collaborator to his colleagues and a zealous advocate for our clients!



### Partners Stephen D. Phillips and Terrence M. Quinn Update ITLA Notebook Chapter

Phillips Law Offices partners, Terrence M. Quinn and Stephen J. Phillips, have collaborated to update their co-authored chapter in the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association Medical Malpractice Notebook chapter. The Medical Malpractice Notebook is a valuable compilation of expertise from the most successful trial attorneys in the state of Illinois that is used as a resource for countless plaintiff's attorneys. Mr. Phillips' and Mr. Quinn's chapter entitled "Learned Medical Treatises" focuses on the rules, requirements, and disclosures necessary for the use of medical literature in medical malpractice trials. Phillips Law Offices is committed to sharing resources and knowledge in order to assist as many injured people as possible.



This edition, attorney Stephen J. Phillips answers some common questions we receive following car accidents.

### Should I contact my insurance company after my car accident?

Yes. Oftentimes insurance contracts have clauses that require the policyholder to notify the insurer of any accident, injury, or potential claim. One of the most important things you can do as an injured person is to contact your own insurance company and let them know, "Hey, I've been involved in an accident, and I'm reporting it to you." However, you should be careful with the information that you provide to them because in certain circumstances, even your own insurance company may attempt to use that against you. That's why it's important to have a personal injury lawyer who understands the nuances of insurance law and can protect you and your family.

### What to do if an insurance adjuster calls me?

If an insurance adjuster calls you, it's typically not something that's going to benefit you. What they are doing in most cases is looking to protect their own company's interests. If the insurance adjuster contacts you, tell them that you've retained a lawyer if you have and, if not, tell them that you plan on retaining a lawyer and to please not contact you.

If you or a loved one has been injured in a motor vehicle accident, please call our experienced team of personal injury attorneys at (312) 346-4262.

## Our Practice Areas

Phillips Law Offices helps victims in a wide range of practice areas involving:

- Personal Injury
- Car Accidents
- Trucking Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Construction Accidents
- Premises Liability
- Wrongful Death
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Dog Bites
- Mass Tort
- Work related injuries
- Taxi Cab Accidents
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Birth Injuries
- Nursing Home abuse and neglect
- Defective Drugs
- Employer Liability
- Medical Malpractice
- Mesothelioma
- Negligence
- Product Liability
- Spinal Injury
- Uber & Lyft Accident



## Saint Ignatius College Prep Hockey Team Involved in Tragic Indiana Bus Crash

### Together for Saint Ignatius Hockey

Warsaw, Indiana – On the evening of Saturday, November 12, 2022, Saint Ignatius College Prep's hockey team members were involved in a serious bus crash involving a semi-truck while on their way back from a game at Culver Academies. 23 student-athletes and 2 coaches were onboard during this collision that took place in Northern Indiana.

As reported by NBC CHICAGO, The semi-truck driver, Victor Santos of Brooklyn, New York, ran a red light, causing the bus to overturn. Santos continued west of the accident, eventually driving off of the roadway and into a ditch. Earlier that evening, there were reports of a semi-truck "speeding" and "swerving" into other lanes, according to Warsaw police. A total of 13 students were injured during this crash, three of which were transported to Fort Wayne Lutheran Hospital and Lutheran Kosciusko County in critical condition.

The other 10 students were treated for non-life-threatening injuries and released at the scene. Santos was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence after police reportedly smelled alcohol on his breath. After failing a sobriety test and refusing to take a chemical test at the scene, Santos was taken into custody. He is being held on preliminary charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury. Fortunately, the three students who sustained critical injuries were upgraded to stable condition by Sunday

morning, though they all still remain in the trauma center.

The attorneys at Phillips Law Offices have obtained record jury verdicts and settlements on behalf of the victims of trucking negligence and wish all of these young men and women speedy and full recoveries. We know first hand how devastating injuries can be from trucking negligence.



If you need to contact one of our Record-Breaking Truck Accident Attorneys, call us now at (312) 346-4262 or contact us via our website [PhillipsLawOffices.com](http://PhillipsLawOffices.com). We will fight for you!



Phillips Law Offices recently obtained a \$5 Million settlement on behalf of the family of a devoted husband and father who suffered fatal injuries after falling from a scissor lift at a construction site. The Plaintiff, a 53-year-old electrician, was installing electrical conduit from a scissor lift elevated twenty-five feet in the air. While having to maneuver around a hole created by the defendant concrete subcontractor, Plaintiff died when his scissor lift tipped over and crashed onto the ground. Phillips Law Offices argued that



both the general contractor and concrete subcontractor violated construction duties and standards, OSHA guidelines, as well as provisions of their own safety manuals, by failing to cover, barricade, mark or otherwise warn of the presence of the holes that they had ordered and created and of which they were undoubtedly aware. The general contractor's job site superintendent admitted that it would have cost only \$30 dollars and would have taken less than 30 minutes to cover and mark or otherwise barricade the holes. Plaintiff was survived by his wife of 19 years and two sons. This case was handled by Stephen D. Phillips, Terrence M. Quinn, and Stephen J. Phillips; the attorneys who handled this case prior to Phillips Law Office's involvement thought the case was unprovable.



## PHILLIPS LAW OFFICES

### CHICAGO'S RECORD-BREAKING ATTORNEYS FIGHTING FOR YOU

For over 75 years, Phillips Law Offices has represented personal injury victims in Chicago and across the state – with record verdicts and settlements for our clients and their families. When our opposing lawyer's family members or friends are wrongfully injured they call us to represent them – a testament to our reputation and standing in the legal community. Our Chicago personal injury and medical malpractice attorneys also represent the family members of wrongful death victims with record verdicts and settlements.

If you have been injured in an accident, or have been the victim of the negligent or wrongful actions of others, call us now at (312) 346-4262!

The information provided in this newsletter by Phillips Law Offices is purely a public resource to be used for general informational purposes only. It is not an invitation for an attorney-client relationship and should not be used as legal advice. It is not a substitute for professional advice from competent counsel. Under no circumstances will Phillips Law Offices have any liability for any loss or damage incurred as a result of the use of this newsletter or your reliance on the information it contains.

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