

NEWSLETTER

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**** Celebrating 93 Years of Service ****



RECENT DECISION HIGHLIGHTS THE COMPLEXITY OF PARKING LOT INJURIES

A recent Rhode Island Workers' Compensation Court appellate decision highlights just how complicated injuries occurring in workplace parking lots can be.

In *Philips v. Eaton Corporation*, an employee finished her shift and was walking toward her car when she slipped and fell on an icy speed bump in a walkway leading to the parking area. Her claim for workers' compensation benefits was denied, and that decision was recently upheld on appeal. The Court found that the employee did not establish an exception to Rhode Island's **"going and coming rule,"** which generally excludes injuries occurring while an employee is traveling to or from work. An important factor was that the employer neither owned nor maintained the area where the employee fell.

However, **this decision does not mean** that all parking lot injuries are excluded from workers' compensation. Rhode Island recognizes exceptions to the going and coming rule, and whether an injury is covered can depend on factors such as **where the injury occurred, who owned or maintained the property, and the employer's control over the area or the employee's route.**

If you were injured while arriving at or leaving work, **do not assume you are ineligible for workers' compensation benefits.** These claims are highly fact-specific. Contact our workers' compensation attorneys to discuss the circumstances of your injury and whether you may be entitled to benefits.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Attorney Arianna Stubbs

Congratulations to Personal Injury Lawyer Christopher Russo & Family Law Attorney Jesse Nason!



Cheers to **35 years of excellence** for Managing Partner **Christopher L. Russo** and **20 years** for Attorney **Jesse Nason** at Kirshenbaum & Kirshenbaum! We are incredibly grateful for their outstanding leadership, dedication, and the lasting impact they continue to make on our clients and community every day. Thank you both for your unwavering commitment to the legal profession!

WHO PAYS FOR THE CHILDREN'S EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AFTER DIVORCE?



As fall is here and children return to school, so do school sports and activities. While we all love cheering on our children from the sideline, extracurricular activities can also become a source of disagreement between parents after divorce. Registration fees, equipment, uniforms, lessons, travel, and other expenses can add up quickly. It is **important to have the obligations clearly spelled out in your divorce agreement** to avoid future disputes and costly litigation.

One common battle is whether these expenses should be treated independently from a child support obligation. Often you will see these types of expenses itemized in the divorce agreement as an obligation separate from child support. Such obligations need to be spelled out in a divorce agreement as being an obligation over and above the standard child support obligation. Parents should consider addressing these costs specifically in their parenting agreement or divorce judgment, including which expenses require mutual consent and how the costs will be divided. It is also helpful to establish a process for giving notice of proposed activities, obtaining consent when an activity involves a significant expense, and submitting documentation for reimbursement. Thoughtful planning at the time of divorce can provide greater clarity and avoid having to return to Court.

Attorney Jesse Nason

FALL FESTIVALS

Norman Bird Sanctuary 52nd Harvest Fair: **October 3-4, 2026.** Located at Norman Bird Sanctuary, 583 3rd Beach Road, Middletown, RI. An old-fashioned autumn tradition featuring hayrides, sack races, fair games, and a mud pit. Admission is \$14 for adults and \$10 for children.

Autumnfest: **October 9-12, 2026.** Located at 84 Social Street, Woonsocket, RI. The largest celebration in Northern Rhode Island, featuring a ten-division parade, amusement rides, a massive food court, and beer gardens celebrating the country's 250th anniversary.

Providence Artisans Market: Saturdays in **October (10, 17, 24)** at 9:00 am. Located at Lippitt Memorial Park, 1015 Hope Street, Providence, RI. A weekly outdoor market highlighting over 300 local craftspeople, running alongside the Hope Street Farmers Market with food trucks and live music.

Federal Hill Italian-American Parade & Festival: **October 11, 2026,** at 11:00 am. Located along Atwells Avenue, Providence, RI. A vibrant Columbus Day weekend celebration packed with live street entertainment, cooking demonstrations, and traditional food vendors.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FALL TRADITION?



Attorney Christopher Russo

"I enjoy making chili this time of year and may even share the recipe!"



Attorney Jesse Nason

"My favorite fall tradition is eating the Monster cereals that come out for Halloween! I wait all year like an excited little kid for a bowl of Count Chocula and Boo Berry."



Attorney Arianna Stubbs

"My family and I go pumpkin picking at Pezza Farm in Johnston, RI. They have a petting zoo, a build your own scarecrow and a hayride and you can also feed the cows. We then do pumpkin paint."



Attorney Jason Nystrom

"My family likes to do some apple picking, as well as, a day-trip down to the Mohawk Trail in Massachusetts to view the foliage."

A CUP OF JUSTICE FOR SARAH JENNINGS!

After Sarah Jennings slipped and fell on snow on a city sidewalk that a homeowner had failed to shovel, she trusted our firm to pursue justice on her behalf.

Cases like Sarah's are anything but easy – an unshoveled sidewalk may seem like a straightforward matter, but obtaining a successful recovery can be incredibly challenging. These cases demand persistence, careful preparation, and a commitment to the person whose life has been affected.

That is why we were so happy to obtain a **phenomenal settlement for Sarah—a Full Cup of Justice that overflowed**, providing her with financial peace of mind and greater confidence in her future.

For us, the most meaningful part of a successful settlement is what it makes possible for our client: relief, security, and the opportunity to look ahead with hope.

Sarah, thank you for placing your trust in us. **We are so proud to be your Lawyers for Life.**



Some cups are filled to the brim.
Others overflow!

Warmly, **Christopher L. Russo**, Managing Partner

CONGRATULATIONS TO BUMBLE!



Bumble won the K&K Dog Days of Summer Photo Contest celebrating "International National Dog Day" on August 26, celebrating the bond between humans and dogs while raising awareness for shelter adoption and rescue animals. She is a female Akita and is 7 years old. She enjoys hanging out at Roger W. Wheeler State Beach in Narragansett, RI. Her owner received a \$25 Visa Gift Card and some treats for Bumble to share with her brother Yukon. Thanks to all who entered and submitted a photo of their loved one!

Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Bread

Here's a recipe for a warm and cozy sweet fall treat!

Ingredients

- 1/2 can (8 oz.) of pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground clove
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- ¾ cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips

Stir ingredients until well blended and pour into a greased 8x4-inch loaf pan. Place on the low rack of a preheated 350-degree oven. Bake for 50–60 minutes. When a toothpick comes out clean, remove from the pan and let cool for two hours. **Enjoy!**