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## January 2024 Newsletter



[Michael Lichner](#) is a personal injury attorney and partner at RCK Law Firm.

### Happy 2024!!!

It's hard to believe that the New Year is here! Where did the time go? The older I get, the faster time seems to go. And the more I appreciate the Holiday season and all the get-togethers that accompany it. I try to slow down and take it all in and enjoy my family, friends, colleagues and clients. With that in mind, from the bottom of my heart, I want to wish everyone health, happiness and prosperity in this new year!



### Announcements

I am proud to announce that in December, I became a member of The National Top 100 Trial Lawyers!



### Professional Corner

### Uber Or Lyft Accidents

Drivers and passengers who are injured in car crashes can typically take action to pursue compensation from a negligent driver or any other party who was responsible for the collision. In

many cases, establishing fault for a car crash is a straightforward matter, and a driver who violated traffic laws or otherwise put people at risk may be held liable for victims' injuries. However, cases become far more complicated if the at-fault driver was operating a vehicle for hire such as a taxi or limousine or providing services through a rideshare app such as Uber or Lyft.

Passengers who use rideshare apps or hire other types of vehicles will usually be covered by insurance policies maintained by the companies that operate these services. Insurance policies may also cover other drivers, passengers, or pedestrians who are injured by rideshare or limo drivers. However, it is often difficult to determine whether the commercial ride-share company's coverage will apply because it is predicated on whether a driver was transporting passengers, en route to pick up passengers, or simply waiting for a ride request.

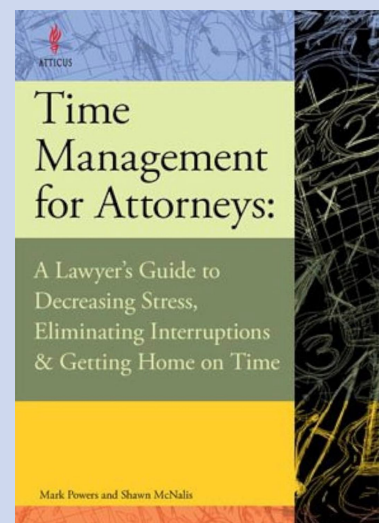
Typically, an employer is liable for injuries caused by their employees during the course of their work. Put simply, if a limo or rideshare driver causes a collision, victims should be able to pursue compensation from the company that hired the driver by filing a personal injury lawsuit.

However, Uber and Lyft often try to avoid being held liable by claiming that drivers were not working at the time, not engaged through the app, or were independent contractors. While the law regarding ride-share drivers is evolving, by categorizing their drivers as "independent contractors", the rideshare companies typically claim that they are not responsible for their drivers' actions or negligence.

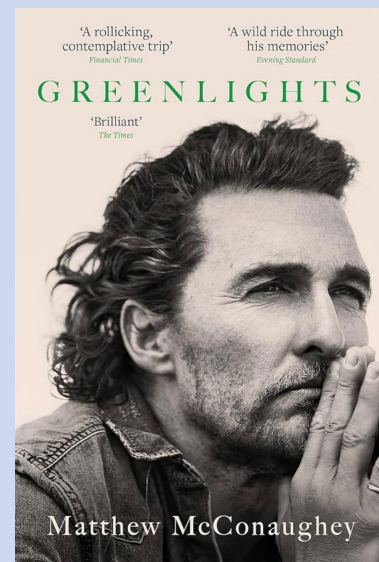
**Read  
More**

## Recommended Reads

A guide to decrease stress? To eliminate interruptions? To getting home on time? Written specifically for lawyers? I was intrigued and skeptical. And it turns out that this book is worth reading. It has great ideas and strategies ranging from how to set strategic goals and manage interruptions to guidance on practice delegation, selecting clients wisely and how to take a well deserved and often needed vacation breaks. This guide also provides useful templates, planning sheets and various forms that can be incorporated into any law practice.



I only knew Matthew McConaughey from his movies, most of which were easy to watch romantic comedies that my wife once in a while insisted we needed to watch (I do have to admit that I enjoyed quite a few of them too). But this book was a pleasant surprise in that it was a well-thought out easy to read book full of positivity, fun stories with inspiring insights and some unexpected life wisdoms. Not only is this book easy to read, I also think that it will put you in a positive midframe and inspire you to look at life in a new light. I would highly recommend this reading, especially now - at the end of one year and the beginning of another.





## January Fun Community Events

**Chicago Heights:** [The 35th Annual Jazz Fest](#) will take place from February 15th and February 16th. The festival will be held in the Barnes & Noble College Auditorium at Prairie State College. General admission is \$10.00 per person.

**Downers Grove:** On February 2nd through the 4th downtown Downers Grove will be filled with ice sculptures for its annual [Downers Grove Ice Festival](#). On Saturday, February 3rd and Sunday, February 4th, from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. you can enjoy live ice carving demonstrations, which will take place at the Main Street Train Station.

**Naperville:** [Naperville Restaurant Week](#) will start on January 19th and run through February 4th. Some of the participating restaurants include Empire Burger Bar, Ramsay's Kitchen, Katrina Latin Bites and Bar, Gia Mia, Colonial Cafe and many, many other fantastic restaurants!

**Frankfort:** [Friends' Winter Art Market](#) will take place on January 27th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Frankfort's new library. The Winter Art Market will feature handmade items from local artisans as well as some great books.

**Lisle, IL:** Morton Arboretum's [Chocolate Weekend](#) will take place on February 2nd through February 4th (February 2nd for members only). This event celebrates the cacao tree. On Saturday, February 3rd and Sunday, February 4th, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. you will be able to taste a delicious array of chocolates and buy some wonderful chocolate treats for that special someone in your life (just in time for Valentine's Day)!

**Rosemont:** If you're looking for some fun-filled winter activities for the whole family, you should check out [Rosemont's Parkway Bank Park](#), which includes AMC Dine In Movie Theater, IFLY Indoor Skydiving, Sugar Factory restaurant, Zanies Comedy Club and an ice skating ring! The ice skating ring is free if you have your own skates - if not, you can rent a pair of skates for \$8.00.

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## Friendly Reminders

Please remember that in addition to our Joliet office located at **3260 Executive Drive in Joliet, IL**, we also have offices in Naperville located at **210 W. Ogden Ave, Naperville, IL**. You can always reach me at my email address at [mlichner@rcklawfirm.com](mailto:mlichner@rcklawfirm.com) or call me at the office at [815-730-1977](tel:815-730-1977) or directly at [815-258-7871](tel:815-258-7871)

Connect with us!



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