

# SHOLLENBERGER & JANUZZI Attorneys At Law

# LawFact

Volume 17, No. 2

September 2011

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## TWEET AT YOUR OWN RISK

*The following Article was written by Danielle Winn, a legal assistant at the firm. The article has been reviewed and approved by one of the firm's partners.*

In an era of tweets and blogs, Myspace and Facebook, we often speak, or type rather, before we think.

Complaining about work, raving about your wild weekend, or bemoaning your recent car accident to 100+/- of your closest "friends" on Facebook may seem harmless; however, doing so can have serious legal consequences.

If you are involved in any type of litigation, anything you post online could be sought by the other party and, even when it may not seem so, the information could be harmful to your case.

"Discovery" is a process where one party requests and receives information from the other parties. These requests can be broad and even include things that you may not think are important to the case. One form of discovery that is often used is called "Requests for Production of Documents." Many courts have ruled that these requests include electronically stored material, even the contents of the person's social media.

Cases involving evidence from social media websites are becoming more prevalent, which will continue to shape the rules governing electronic evidence. As case law evolves, so do investigation techniques used by attorneys and investigators. New technologies are being developed and used which can monitor and capture data on websites, even when the information has long been deleted. This means that the other party in a lawsuit could obtain your posts or tweets dating back months or even years.

With websites like Facebook and Twitter here to stay, it is up to the individual to protect themselves in their online environment. We recommend that you take a second to think about what you post and the effect that it may have. If you wouldn't shout it in a crowded room, or want to testify about it in a courtroom, then you should not post it on the internet.

As President Calvin Coolidge said, "I have found out in the course of a long public life that the things I did not say never hurt me."



## DID YOU KNOW?

...That the attorneys at Shollenberger & Januzzi often review their clients' automobile insurance policies when they are renewing or purchasing new policies. We would be happy to do the same for any of our clients who would like assistance in determining the coverage that is best suited for their needs.

...That many deserving people have their long term disability benefits terminated and never appeal the decision. Most long term disability policies allow a certain amount of time to file an appeal with the insurance company themselves. However, even if the insurance company upholds their initial decision or the time for the appeal has passed, you may still have the right to file a lawsuit. Either way, you should act as soon as you find out the insurance company has or may terminate your benefits. One of the most important things you can do is to speak with a lawyer who has experience handling long term disability cases. If you, a loved one or a friend have had your long term disability benefits terminated or fear that you might, please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will gladly discuss the case with you.

# SHOLLENBERGER & JANUZZI

Attorneys At Law

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## NEWS FROM THE FIRM

We would like to welcome **Ana Brown** to the Shollenberger & Januzzi team. Ana will be serving as the firm's bookkeeper. Ana comes to us with considerable experience in accounting and bookkeeping.

For the third straight year **Tim Shollenberger**, the senior partner at the firm, was selected by The National Trial Lawyers as one of the top 100 trial lawyers in the state of Pennsylvania.

For the second straight year, **Adam Wolfe**, a partner with the firm, was selected as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters company, and Philadelphia Magazine. The Rising Star distinction is awarded to only 2.5% of all PA lawyers each year and recognizes the top lawyers in Pennsylvania under the age of 40 and/or who have been in practice less than ten (10) years. In addition, Adam was re-elected to the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice. In July, Adam was on the faculty of a Pennsylvania Association for Justice seminar geared towards teaching Pennsylvania lawyers about the impact of the new Joint and Several Liability law that was passed in June, 2011.

We are pleased to announce that **Jessica Swedenhjelm**, R.P. (Register Paralegal), a paralegal at the firm, has been elected as the Vice President Director of Membership for the National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA). NFPA is the organization that sets the standards for local paralegal associations across the country.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Chilmaza**, a paralegal with the firm, and her husband Armando on the birth of their third child, Crew Chilmaza. Crew was born on August 2nd. Mom and baby are doing well.

Congratulations to **Danielle Winn** on her recent engagement to Charles Wadsworth. An October 2012 wedding is planned.

Everyone at the firm wishes to congratulate **Jennifer Ruiz**, a legal assistant with the firm, and her husband Juan, on the upcoming birth of their second child. Jenn and Juan are already the proud parents of Johnny, 5 years old. Jenn is due in April.

## VISIT US ON THE WEB...CHECK OUT OUR NEW BLOG

In addition to our improved website, we have launched the Shollenberger & Januzzi Blog. The Blog provides posts concerning legal aspects of motor vehicle crashes, work place injuries, medical malpractice and social security disability claims. We hope that you will check the blog regularly and provide us with your thoughts and comments. We also encourage you to provide the blog address to anyone you think might find the postings useful. You can access the blog through a link on our website home page at [www.sholljanlaw.com](http://www.sholljanlaw.com) or directly at [www.personalinjuryattorneyspa.com](http://www.personalinjuryattorneyspa.com).

## OUR PURPOSE

Shollenberger & Januzzi, LLP is committed to excellence in providing superior legal services in personal injury cases. We consider our past and present clients part of our legal family and we hope that they think of us as "their lawyers". Publication of this quarterly newsletter is another example of our determination to keep friends and clients informed about legal matters important to them. It is not intended to be offered as a source of advice pertaining to any specific matter. Please share the newsletter with neighbors, friends or anyone you think may benefit from the information it contains.

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**Your Professional Personal Injury Law Firm**