

**Legal Insights** is a newsletter of timely and practical legal information that we hope you can use in your professional and personal pursuits. Please contact your attorney at Nicola, Gudbranson & Cooper if you have any questions or comments or if you would like to suggest topics of interest for future issues.



## Sexual harassment accusations and recoveries have risen dramatically

Employers should be concerned about a dramatic rise in sexual harassment claims attributed largely to the #MeToo movement. Charges filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have increased by more than 12% in fiscal year 2018, while charges filed by the EEOC have increased more than 50%. James H. Grove and Amy Berman Hamilton suggest ways to reduce the risk of either.

[Read the full article.](#)

## Leaving a lasting legacy through charitable gifts

Charitable donations and bequests can be gratifying ways to make a lasting impact on the world, whether it's a bequest to a college, a donation for medical research or even a contribution to a local pet shelter. Brenda L. Wolff, whose practice focuses on estate planning and related matters, reviews options that are mindful of tax consequences and allow you to make charitable gifts that will create a lasting, impactful legacy.

[Read the full article.](#)



## Removing cremated remains from a cemetery

From time to time, disagreements might occur over the cremated remains (cremains, or ashes) of a loved one, such as whose mantel might be a better home than the cemetery. Matthew T. Fitzsimmons warns that even a family member who removes the cremains of a loved one without a disbursement order from probate court could face several serious criminal charges.

[Read the full article.](#)



## Cleveland's E-scooters: What you need to know

You've probably seen the new-to-Cleveland electric

### SPOTLIGHT

Nicola, Gudbranson & Cooper attorneys offer a personal, confidential approach to estate and business succession planning and the administration of wills and trusts on behalf of clients throughout Ohio. Our attorneys have represented individuals in the development and documentation of complete estate plans, including wills, trusts, powers of attorney, living wills and multi-generational wealth transfer documents.

[Read about our Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Administration practice.](#)

### FIRM NEWS

**Karen Moss** and **Brad Ortman** have again been included in *Best Lawyers*, the oldest and considered most respected peer review publication in the legal profession. Both are part of NGC's Immigration Law Group. Karen has been in *Best Lawyers* since 2009, and Brad since 2017. Lawyers are selected through exhaustive peer review surveys among tens of thousands of leading lawyers.

**Matt Fitzsimmons** and **Mike Bertsch** have been listed for 2020 on Super Lawyers, a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Matt has been listed since 2010, and this is Mike's second year. The patented selection process includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations.

Liabilities involving pre-game and between-innings promotions and social media is the topic of a presentation that **Jim Juliano** and **Bruce Waterhouse** will be making at the Baseball Winter Meetings on Dec. 11 in San Diego.

**Rich Witkowski** offered his insights to *Accounting Today* as to why malpractice claims against accountants are down: Times are good for many businesses. "Accountants' clients are more interested in making money than in arguing about the past," the magazine quoted Rich, who represents clients involving professional liability.

**Matt Stanley** has joined NGC as an associate practicing in the fields of corporate law, banking and finance, commercial real estate, mergers and acquisitions and estate and business succession planning. Matt holds a bachelor's degree from Miami University, an MBA from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business and his law degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Matt previously held roles in the financial

scooters zipping along city streets or parked on sidewalks in downtown and several other neighborhoods. Nicholas J. Dertouzos notes that scooters are limited to 12 mph and to streets within city boundaries. He outlines some rules for both scooter riders and vehicle drivers sharing the roads during the city's six-month trial period.



services industry as a corporate finance executive and management consultant.

**[Read the full article.](#)**

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