

# LEGALLY SPEAKING<sup>®</sup>

Advocates for Insurance Claimants

Winter 2018

A quarterly newsletter for friends and clients of *Boteler, Finley & Wolfe, Attorneys at Law*

Alabama Bar Association rules require the following disclaimer: No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be provided is greater than the quality of legal services to be performed by other attorneys.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

At BF&W we feel extremely blessed that so many of our former clients and friends in the community recommend our legal services to their friends and family members. As 2017 comes to a close we can again report that over 90% of our new legal matters have come to us by way of your recommendations and referrals. We truly appreciate your recommendations and referrals. Even if it is a legal issue outside our primary area of practice, we will always take time to answer questions and try to help those that call on us.

*"No man has a right to come into this world and leave this world without leaving behind him distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it."*

- George Washington Carver

## GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

In addition to providing quality legal services, the lawyers at BF&W believe they have an obligation to be good stewards of the legal fees they earn. This belief is demonstrated by their involvement and support of important and beneficial programs in our community. Mark, Knox and Karlos currently serve in leadership roles for the following organizations and charities: Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail, Family Promise of Coastal Alabama, Prodisee Pantry, Mobile United, Bishop State Community College Foundation, Dearborn YMCA, Lion's Club and Leadership Alabama.

In addition the following organizations received financial support from BF&W to help them fulfill their charitable or civic mission in our community: Prodisee Pantry, Delta Bike Project, RideYellow, Mobile Bar Foundation, Family Promise of Coastal Ala, Gulf Coast Holiday Basketball Tournament, Chad Saucier Scholarship Fund, Mobile Bar Foundation, Franklin Primary Health Ctr, Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy and the Boys & Girls Clubs of South Ala.

With more and more national and regional law firms extracting legal fees from our community and not giving back to our community, it is important for legal consumers to consider the benefits of hiring local attorneys!

 **LIKE & SHARE OUR [facebook](#) POSTS**

You can help us help others in our community by liking and sharing the posts from the BF&W facebook page. We use our facebook page to alert consumers about important information or issues that can help or protect their families such as product recalls and to promote local civic events and fund raiser events for area non-profits. If you see one of our posts, please share it with your facebook friends!

## BOTELER, FINLEY & WOLFE, ATTORNEYS = BENEFIT, VALUE & RESULTS

**BF&W = BENEFIT.** Experience helping injury victims and insurance claimants for over 25 years.

**BF&W = VALUE.** Reasonable contingency fees and we are paid only if we win your claim or case.

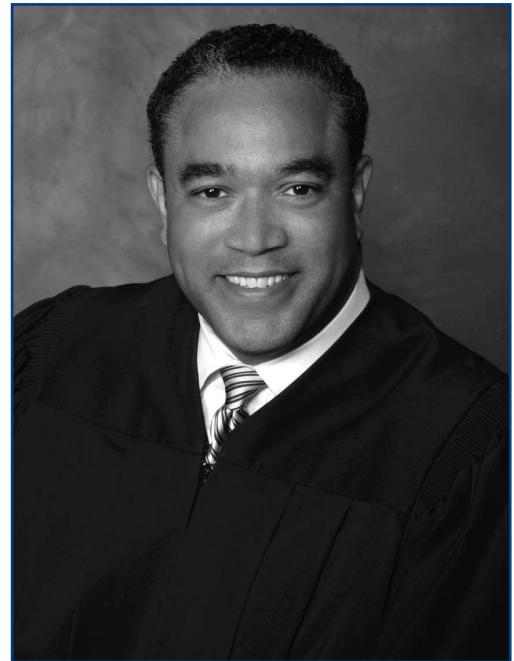
**BF&W = RESULTS.** Higher net recovery ratio for our clients. I.e., more money for our clients when the claim or case is resolved.

## FINLEY FOR CIRCUIT JUDGE IN 2018

BF&W's Karlos Finley is seeking the seat of retiring Circuit Court Judge Rick Stout. Upon graduation from Leflore High School, Finley served our country in the U.S. Coast Guard. Upon completion of his service, he gained employment with Mobile's Scott Paper Company, while simultaneously he earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Mobile after transferring from Bishop State Community College. "This is something I often share with the youth of our community so that they know that there are many ways to pursue their dreams." While working his way through law school, Finley clerked full time for Circuit Judge Eugene R. Verin. In that capacity he served as a Special Master in the Domestic Relations Circuit Court of the Bessemer Division of Jefferson County.

Upon returning to Mobile, Finley began his legal career as an attorney with the Mobile County District Attorney's Office. This experience, as well as his military service helped to ingrain a respect for law enforcement and protecting the rule of law. "As an attorney in private practice with Boteler Finley & Wolfe, I have fought for those who couldn't fight for themselves. I have handled complex litigation cases, and since 2015, I have served as a municipal court judge for the City of Mobile. In my courtroom, I protect the rights of all and serve as an advocate for justice. Most importantly, the support of my wife Kelly and our three children is what truly make this candidacy possible."

Please follow Karlos Finley for Circuit Judge on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and visit his website at [finleyforcircuitjudge.com](http://finleyforcircuitjudge.com). The general election is Tuesday, November 6, 2018.



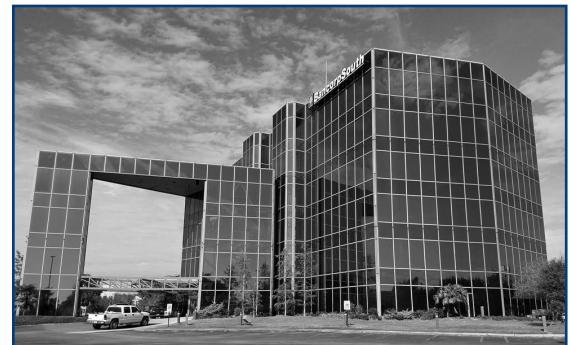
## FINLEY HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER SPEAKER

In addition to his work at BF&W and his work for the City of Mobile as a Municipal Judge, Karlos has become one of the most popular speakers in Mobile. He often talks at area schools and youth organizations providing motivational insights and encouragement to children and young adults. His passion for guiding and mentoring goes back to his childhood and the people who positively impacted his life as well as the time he spent working at the Strickland Youth Center for the Mobile County District Attorney's Office. "I could see that many of the youth in trouble did not have strong guidance or motivation and I feel compelled to try and be a positive influence for our youth," said Finley. In 2017, Karlos was a guest speaker at 17 events in our community!

## BF&W OFFICE LOCATION

As many of you know, we relocated our office in 2016 to **3290 Dauphin Street, suite 505**, Mobile, AL 36606. Our new location is very convenient and most clients report they are happy with the new location. We are on the 5th floor of the Bancorp South Bldg (formerly known as the Infirmary 65 Bldg) which is the glass office complex located near the intersection of Dauphin Street and Interstate 65.

**Boteler, Finley & Wolfe**  
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**Mobile, AL 36606**  
**251 433-7766**



# UPDATES AND CASES OF INTEREST

## PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS

The lawyers at BF&W continue to help and represent injury victims with their claims and cases. Car accident claims continue to be the main focus of the BF&W firm; however, slip and fall cases and workers' compensation claims are also handled. With over 25 years of experience representing injury victims, BF&W attorneys have a detailed knowledge and understanding of the insurance claim process and what needs to be done to help each client get the full compensation he or she is entitled to. Call today for a free consultation about a personal injury matter or you can email your questions to Mark Wolfe at [mark@bfw-lawyers.com](mailto:mark@bfw-lawyers.com).

## BP OILS SPILL LITIGATION

Over seven years after the BP Horizon Deepwater oil spill, Knox Boteler has now concluded over 95% of the 200 claims he was handling for area business owners who qualified for compensation under the original class action settlement. The settlement was first announced about a year after the spill but before any claim payments could be issued, BP began a lengthy appeal process trying to avoid and delay paying the claims. The BP appeal process slowly went through the Court system with BP incredulously claiming that they did not understand the terms of the class action settlement their attorneys negotiated with the class counsel for the victim's. Finally in June of 2015 the US Supreme Court rejected BP's claims of ignorance and ordered them to begin processing and paying the claims. Claim payments finally started in 2016 and carried over to last year.

## ANTI-TRUST LITIGATION

2017 saw the resolution of one of America's largest anti-trust class action lawsuits. The case involved price fixing allegations against numerous Japanese companies that provided wire harness parts and components to auto-manufacturers and their suppliers. Karlos Finley was corporate counsel for Craft-Co Inc, one of the class representatives for the victims of the price fixing. He and Mark Wolfe both worked on the case which was filed in the Federal Court of Michigan and included 23 law firms from across the country representing the victims.

## INVOKANA

BF&W lawyers are currently reviewing several potential claims involving the drug Invokana. It is a popular drug used to treat Type-2 diabetes and is part of a class of drugs called sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 ("SGLT2") inhibitors. These SGLT2 drugs cause the kidneys to remove sugar from the body through the urine, lowering the patient's blood sugar. Recent medical literature indicates the drug may cause diabetic ketoacidosis and kidney damage. A current multi-district lawsuit pending in New Jersey Federal Court alleges the manufacturer, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, failed to adequately test the medication and also failed to adequately warn patients of the dangerous risks associated with its use. If you or a loved one used Invokana and have now been diagnosed with ketoacidosis or kidney damage we may be able to help you with your claim. Please call today.

## KNEE REPLACEMENT FAILURE

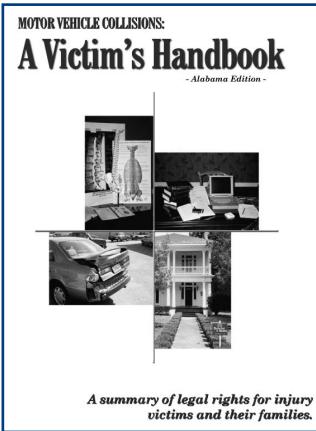
DePuy Synthes makes the Attune® Knee System. In recent months the FDA has documented numerous cases where the Attune® Knee System has prematurely failed. Also a recent article in the *Journal of Knee Surgery*, nine prominent orthopedic surgeons reported that they have encountered an unusually high-rate of premature failures of the Attune® Knee System. In most cases, the only medical solution for patients who experience a premature failure of their Attune® Knee System is to undergo a revision surgery to remove the implant and replace it. These revision surgeries are often more painful and invasive than the initial replacement surgery. If you or a loved one has an Attune® Knee System we may be able to help you with your claim. Please call today for a free consultation. 251 433-7766.



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## AUTO-CRASHES HURT THREE MILLION PEOPLE A YEAR



With 6.5 million motor vehicle collisions each year and 3 million injuries related to those collisions [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration report], chances are you, or someone you know, will need information about motor vehicle accidents and the variety of insurance claims related to car accidents. About 1% of the American population is injured annually in a motor vehicle collision. This means out of every 100 people, 1 person will be hurt in a car accident in 2016. Most of these injuries, approximately 2 million, will be "soft-tissue" sprains and strains. Those relatively minor injuries will require medical care at an average of about \$4,700.00 and cause the average victim to lose 10 days from work. Our publication *Motor Vehicle Accidents: A Victim's Handbook* (free) and our web site: [www.bfw-lawyers.com](http://www.bfw-lawyers.com) provide motor vehicle collision victims with important information about the insurance coverage and claims related to car accidents. BF&W has been publishing the *Victim's Handbook* since 1994. It has been updated five times and over 60,000 copies have been published and distributed at no cost to the public. CALL 1 866 975 7766 (toll free) or locally 433-7766 FOR A FREE COPY. OR VISIT [www.bfw-lawyers.com](http://www.bfw-lawyers.com) TO DOWNLOAD A COPY (FREE!)