



Jones, Clifford, Johnson & Johnson, LLP

A Tradition of Excellence

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Personal Injury Litigation: Overcoming Hurdles

JCJJ partner Kevin Morrison credits the inspiration for his most recent legal success story to his client's own tenacity and hard work in overcoming numerous hurdles in the process of his medical recovery. The case involved a young man in his 20s who was involved in a severe motorcycle collision. Until his crash into the side of a tractor trailer, he was happily working at his dream job and had plans to get married; however, both were lost in the months that followed.



After the crash, he was in a coma for six weeks, and it took months of rehabilitation just to learn to speak again. Yet from a legal standpoint, Kevin recognized the case had its own hurdles to overcome. In fact, another attorney had turned the case down, telling the young man and his family that the legal obstacles were greater than the potential for success. But after his initial meeting with them, Kevin knew he'd take on the challenge. "I liked the guy, I liked his family, and I wanted to go to bat for him."

Kevin's style as a legal advocate for his clients is to understand the consequences of their injuries by getting to know them on a personal level. It is part of his method of thoroughly working his cases up for trial. He is also known for using the latest technology available, which he used in this case to reconstruct the crash sequence. Together with outside experts, he was able to dispute the police report, which found the motorcyclist the sole cause of the crash, thereby shifting fault for the collision to the truck driver. Ultimately, Kevin Morrison's vision and legal effort, in what was unquestionably a difficult legal argument, came together as a winning legal theory. As a result, a confidential settlement was reached in the case; it will allow the client financial means to pay for his ongoing medical care, as he continues to rebuild his life.

JCJJ's Newest Lawyer

Melanie Carr is the newest lawyer to join the JCJJ team. Melanie is a San Francisco native and is proud to be the daughter and granddaughter of retired San Francisco firefighters. Her expertise is in the areas of workers' compensation and public employee retirement law. The combination of her passion for advocacy for injured workers, along with her family background, makes her especially empathetic to the needs of safety officers injured in the course of public service.

Melanie graduated with honors in 2001 from San Francisco State University. We are fortunate that she began working at JCJJ even before she went to law school. In 2007, Melanie completed law school at the University of San Francisco, where she was an active member of the Labor and Employment Law Student Association and served as a technical editor of the *Maritime Law Journal*. Since then, she has been busy at JCJJ, meeting with clients and advocating on their behalf.



Health Tip: Keeping Bones Strong

Calcium and Vitamin D

Eating a balanced diet with enough calcium and vitamin D is a key step in the prevention of osteoporosis.

How much calcium do you need?

This depends on many factors, such as age, gender, other prescription drugs, and bone mineral density. For most people, a daily intake between 1,000 and 1,500 mg of calcium is both safe and potent.

How much Vitamin D do you need?

If you have been told to take a vitamin D supplement, a dose from 400–800 International Units (IU) per day is safe and potent. Older patients should take the 800 IU/day dose. Almost all multivitamins contain 400 IU/day. Vitamin D supplements can be bought at most drugstores and health-food stores.

Source: <http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/guides/calcium.htm>



Back Row: Christopher Dehner, Frank Clifford, Steger Johnson, Ken Johnson, Kevin Morrison, Melanie Carr
Front Row: Kenny Sheppard, Alex Wong

By placing your trust in **JCJJ**, you will be with one of the premier law firms in California—**small enough to treat your case personally, but big enough to represent your rights aggressively.**



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Increasing Prices at the Pump Also Increases Our Need to Share

From the desk of Ken Johnson

A partner with JCJJ since 1989, Ken has represented several injured bicyclists.

You generally don't have to look beyond your local news to find a story about a bicyclist being hit by a car. Even though most of us have seen road signs reminding us to share the road, according to the Department of Motor Vehicles, every year in California over 100 people are killed and hundreds of thousands more are injured in bicycle collisions.

Who is at fault? No doubt if you took a quick poll among groups of bicyclists and groups of drivers, you'd come up with differing opinions on where to place the blame. Opinions aside, the fact is, bicyclists on public streets have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers. So become educated on the rules and be safe. If you drive a car, **respect** the right-of-way of bicyclists because they are entitled to

share the road. And if you enjoy the open road on your bicycle, your safety may depend on being predictable, visible, and communicating your intentions to motorists.

What happens when the unexpected happens? "If you are injured by a car while riding your bike, remember that your own auto insurance policy will most likely provide benefits," said Ken Johnson. If you have a question, call our office for a free consultation.



Share the Road

Source: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/about/bicycle.htm>



We've Added a New Office!

In recognition of the needs of our Northern California clients, we are available by appointment in our office located in historic Old Town Sacramento.

You will find us at:

106 K Street, 2nd Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Phone: 916-446-4411

Personal Injury Attorneys:

Ken Johnson, Steger Johnson, Kevin Morrison

Workers' Compensation Attorneys:

Frank Clifford, Christopher Dehner, Alex Wong, Kenny Sheppard, Melanie Carr