

FLATTMANN FILES

August 2023

“Quality Is No Accident”

Every Client Deserves the Extra Mile **Genuine Support During Challenging Times**

Sadly, not every attorney will provide the same level of service. Everyone's work ethic varies, attorneys included, and with National Work Like a Dog Day taking place on Aug. 5, I wanted to share just how crucial hard work is for me. It's more than just working diligently but also about supporting my clients in challenging times.

I have always followed the golden rule: Treat others how you want to be treated. With my clients, I especially take this to heart. I want to go the extra mile and do whatever I need to bring relief after they experience a traumatic injury or accident. Whether it's nights or weekends, if I get new information, I will contact my clients if I know this will give them peace of mind. For me, work doesn't stop on Friday or after 5 p.m.



I've experienced waiting anxiously by the phone, and I know getting information as soon as possible can help soothe nerves and ease worries. Unfortunately, insurance companies delay these calls as a tactic. They know victims anxiously await a call and purposely take longer so clients are desperate and willing

to take the lowest settlement. Well, I'm not letting that happen on my watch!

When I think about where my work ethic stemmed from, I think of my stepdad, who always told me never to do a job halfway. Whether it was mowing the lawn, doing my homework, or playing basketball, I needed to give everything I had to prove myself to others and myself. Now, I still make sure I give 100%. I take pride in my work and never want to let my clients or myself down.

Honestly, I can't remember when I wasn't working hard! I worked throughout high school and college, doing whatever I could to support myself. I even worked in construction in south Louisiana, and let me tell you, this created a deep appreciation for my fellow hard workers. These are the people who would get to work at midnight to pour concrete until 3 p.m. under the scorching sun. I learned to have gratitude for both hard laborers... **and** air conditioning!

In my career now, my clients depend on me, and I am obligated to help them in any way possible. I know I'm going to do the best job for them. It always goes back to the golden rule. If I had experienced a terrible accident that changed my life, what kind of attorney would I want on my side? My clients put their trust in me, and I would never take advantage of that.

At Flattmann Law, we love to keep up with our clients, both past and current! So, if you haven't already, follow us on Facebook! You can also check out our website, **FlattmannLaw.com**, where we are adding new and interesting content every week. I look forward to supporting you and our community!



-Grady Flattmann

A Textbook Won't Do You Justice!

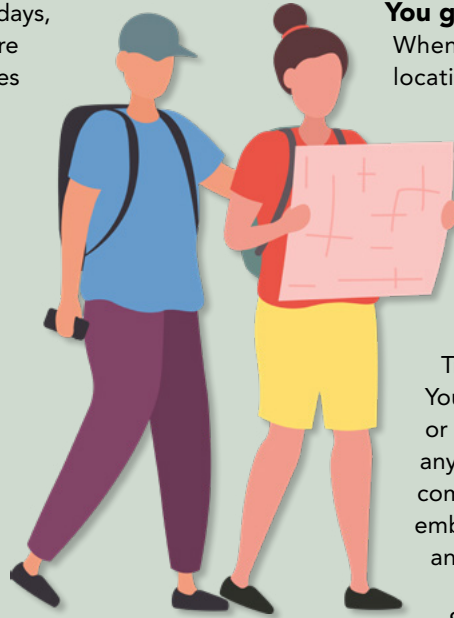
Why Traveling Is the Best Form of Education

As you mark your calendars with upcoming holidays, get-togethers, events, and school activities, there may be one you're missing: American Adventures Month. This monthlong event encourages you to be adventurous and travel so you can better understand the world around you.

While you can research online or open a book to learn more about any part of the world, nothing beats visiting these places yourself. Here are three reasons why traveling is the best form of education.

You learn more about people.

When you travel to other states or internationally, you can learn a lot about the culture of these places by speaking to residents. They can suggest historical places for you to visit that teach you about their heritage, lifestyle, and what life was like for their ancestors. You will think about things you've never considered before and have a deeper appreciation for the views of others.



You gain a deeper appreciation for history.

When you walk through important historical locations, you understand the past better because you're living it! You're walking the same roads or staring at the same landmarks that civilizations from centuries ago did. When you immerse yourself in the history of a place, you can better understand why its origins are meaningful.

You leave your comfort zone.

Traveling somewhere new can be nerve-wracking! You won't know the best mode of transportation or know anyone there — you may not even speak any native languages! By leaving what makes you comfortable, you'll learn to depend on yourself and embrace change and uncertainty. These skills can and will help you in all aspects of life.

So, travel this month and learn something new! We understand you can't drop everything just to hop on a plane to another country, so try venturing to a nearby city you've never visited and learning about its history.

'But I Did This With My Kids!'

How to Set Boundaries With Your Family

There isn't a one-size-fits-all approach to parenting, so when you become a parent, you'll likely employ techniques you learned from family or friends and what you learned on your own. Naturally, these techniques and your preferences may differ from what your loved ones did for their children, and sometimes, it can be difficult for them to adjust. Because of this, how do you set boundaries with family members regarding your children?

Be direct when communicating boundaries.

Don't assume your loved ones know or understand your parenting style. Instead, clearly state your rules, values, practices, and expectations when others are around your children. When creating physical boundaries, you can say, *"Please don't give my child soda when they visit. That's something I don't want them to have."* For emotional boundaries, you can say, *"Please don't force my child to hug you. If they refuse, give them their space without compromising their feelings and comfortability."*

Develop a strategy for handling pushback.

"I did this with my kids, and they turned out fine!" You may have heard this quote when vocalizing your wishes to loved ones about how to treat your children. If they question your tactics, practice what you will say so you're not caught off guard. But most importantly, remember why you're establishing these boundaries



and upholding those values. If your loved ones fail to respect your wishes, don't be afraid to reinforce those boundaries — it's okay to say no!

Give your family time to adjust.

Changing and creating new habits is challenging, so give your loved ones time to adjust to your boundaries. However, if you're continuing to reinforce your wishes and still meeting pushback and disrespect, it's okay to distance yourself or cut ties. You have to put what's best for you and your family first.

If you have any questions or concerns about establishing boundaries with your loved ones, contact a marriage and family therapist to assist you. They can provide more insight and resources to help you during this time.

TAKE A *BREAK*

SOLUTION

6	9	7	2	1	4	3	5	8
3	5	4	8	6	7	1	2	9
7	4	9	5	6	3	8	1	2
9	3	8	5	7	1	2	4	6
2	8	7	1	9	4	5	3	6
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HOISIN-GLAZED PORK CHOPS

Inspired by TheModernProper.com

These savory and sweet pork chops are covered in a flavorful hoisin glaze and take only 30 minutes!

Ingredients

- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp minced ginger
- 1/3 cup hoisin sauce
- 2 tbsp rice vinegar
- 2 tbsp water
- 4 boneless pork chops (about 2 lbs)
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 2 tbsp sesame oil
- Cilantro (optional)

Directions

1. In a small saucepan over medium heat, simmer garlic, ginger, hoisin sauce, rice vinegar, and water. Whisk occasionally until mixture is fully incorporated (about 4 minutes). Set aside.
2. Lightly salt pork chops. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, add sesame oil and wait until smoking. Place pork in skillet and cook until browned (3-4 minutes on each side, depending on thickness of pork chops).
3. Remove pork chops from skillet and transfer to a cutting board. Let rest for 5 minutes.
4. Drizzle hoisin mixture over pork chops and top with cilantro if desired.

No Food, Beverages, Gum, or High Heels Allowed!

How Greece Is Preserving Its Ancient Sites

If you wanted to pinpoint a civilization that has impacted our society and government in more ways than one, ancient Greece should be one of the first civilizations you think of. The ancient Greeks made significant contributions to philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, medicine, literature, and so much more. Today, you can still visit their magnificent monuments and tour ancient sites — it will surely make you feel like you've returned to ancient times!



However, if you plan on traveling to Greece, there are a few things you need to know. For example, in 2009, Greek authorities implemented a law stating that you cannot wear high heels while walking around these historic sites.

Because these monuments are centuries old, they have experienced a lot of wear and tear. And visitors (or locals) wearing stiletto heels can damage these sites even more with their spiked heels.

But that's not the only law Greek authorities instituted in 2009. You also can't bring food, drinks, or gum to most of these historical sites.

The Odeon of Herodes Atticus in Athens, Greece, was built in 161 A.D. To this day, it continues to be a stadium for live performances, festivals, and other activities. But in 2009, Greek authorities and the venue's maintenance crew knew something needed to change. As the crew cleaned up the stadium, they discovered nearly 60 pounds of chewing gum beneath the marble seats. Because of this incident of littering — and many others — Greek officials came up with a solution, and new laws were created.

If we want to preserve the history of these places and the culture of the ancient Greeks, continue learning more about them, and use their buildings and stadiums, then we must follow the preventive measures the modern Greeks put in place. So, if you plan on traveling to Greece to see the iconic Parthenon temple, the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, the Temple of Apollo, the Temple of Zeus, or other locations, be sure to wear your comfiest shoes, and eat and drink before visiting!



GRADY J. FLATTMANN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LLC

“Quality Is No Accident”

Flattmann Law
(985) 590-6182
FlattmannLaw.com

213 W. 21st Ave.
Covington, LA
70433

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YOU'RE NOT ALONE WHEN DEALING WITH THE IRS

Even Beyoncé Owes Them Money!

After filing your taxes, a thought that may race through your mind is, *“I hope the IRS doesn't come after me.”* Thousands, if not millions, of people are in the same boat — including celebrities. Many celebrities have been in trouble with the IRS, such as Mike “The Situation” Sorrentino, Shakira, Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne, Nicolas Cage, and more.



However, we can add another A-List celebrity to this list who filed a petition against the IRS: Beyoncé Knowles-Carter.

On Jan. 18, 2023, Beyoncé received a Notice of Deficiency, which outlined the amount of money she owed to the IRS. The organization estimated the singer owes \$805,850 in taxes and \$161,170 in penalties for 2018 plus \$1,442,747 in taxes and \$288,549 in penalties for 2019. That's almost \$2.7 million that the “Crazy in Love” artist must pay!

Beyoncé filed a petition against the IRS' claims on April 17, 2023, and asked them to reassess the penalties and amount of taxes she owes. According to Beyoncé's lawyer, Michael C. Cohen, the singer should get an itemized deduction of \$868,766 since she donated to charity in 2018. Beyoncé founded the BeyGood Foundation, an organization created in 2013 that assists

others with education, disaster relief, mental health, and other issues. However, at the time of writing, it's unclear which charities she donated to.

Additionally, Beyoncé's petition states that the IRS allegedly disallowed portions of Beyoncé's business income deductions, utilities, insurance, management fees, and legal and professional services in 2018 and 2019. Furthermore, Cohen argues that even if she owes any tax deficiency payments, the penalty shouldn't apply because Beyoncé has “acted reasonably and in good faith.”

A court hearing has yet to be scheduled at the time of writing. But the former *Destiny's Child* member's lawyer told *PEOPLE* magazine that they “are working with the IRS and anticipate that the matter will be resolved shortly.”