

BowTieLawyer

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Attorney Milestones; Lessons Learned on the Soapbox

As a practicing attorney you are always learning from each case, each client, each Court appearance with opposing counsel. Through all of this, there are memorable lessons learned and some you wis



Some memorable milestones are your first Court appearance, your first argument before the Court, your first satisfied client. I recently experienced a “milestone” that I wanted to share.

I was involved in a case where I “knew” who the other attorney was before he was “hired.” I knew the conduct of his client; destroying property, taking things that did not belong to him, damaging other property, having a poor attitude and ignoring attempts to communicate amicably and to resolve the outstanding issues without things escalating. I have this theory that clients tend to seek out and hire attorneys that do not do for themselves. Now, obviously this is not always true and too broad a generalization to make, but fit the instance. In any event, this other party decided to do some bad things.

As soon as I heard of the destruction, I said “I know who his attorney is.” It was not a good feeling. I knew myself. I was disappointed that due to this conduct that I “knew” who he hired. This conduct and the result is exactly why people hate attorneys and think we are lower than low.

So what did I do about it? Well, I tried to do the best I could. Set it for hearing and let the Judge hear it. The client may or may not have broken the law, but that didn’t make it right.

I have had the fortune of working for, and eventually with, [a great attorney](#) for my entire legal career. One of the greatest lessons I learned was even if you do not know what the correct legal answer is, if you do your best, it will be okay. That has stuck with me.

This milestone, unfortunately memorable, of knowing who the other attorney is by offensive conduct actually reminded me that I do not ever want another attorney to “know” that I am involved in an offensive conduct of my client. Want to share some war stories? Leave a comment or send me a message on my blog about it.

Matthew Thompson is a Family Law attorney and strives to do what is right and is now getting off of l

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You may also contact Matthew with your family law case, question or concern at (601) 850-8000 or Matthew@wmtlawfirm.com.



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