The Townsley Law Firm

October Newsletter



Staff Member of the Month

Emma Kleinpeter, a paralegal and intake specialist for The Townsley Law Firm, has been a valued member of the team since March 2025. Every day, she analyzes records, organizes case materials, and helps build strong cases for people in need.

Previously working in a hospital's Quality Department as an administrative assistant, provided a strong foundation for Kleinpeter's transition into the legal field.

Kleinpeter grew up in Southwest Louisiana, where she now raises her daughter, Ava, who is her greatest joy. Outside of work, Kleinpeter assists with custody agreements and related legal documents for people who can't afford representation. She is also training to become a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate for foster children in the Lake Charles area.

Kleinpeter is committed to advocating for injured clients alongside her team to pursue meaningful results for every family they represent.

Townsley Tips...

Administrative Malpractice

A medical malpractice claim can be against any worker in a healthcare setting, including administrative staff who are in charge of medical records, human resources and finance departments, among others. A mistake can happen before or after a paitent meets with a physician, leading to injuries.

Two examples of administrative malpractice can include errors when collecting information and test result errors.

When a patient enters the hospital, the front desk staff will collect details before sending them to other departments. They should record your name, the symptoms the patient is experiencing, medical history, and any other information that will help the respective phsyician understand the patient's condition.

If an error is made when collecting this information, it could cause the physician to make an incorrect decision because they rely on information that was collected before the visit began.

Another example of administrative malpractice involves test result errors. If a physician orders a test to diagnose a condition, specimen will be handled by a specimen processor who is responsible for collecting samples, labeling them, and performation data entry.

If the administrator mislabels a speciman, a patient could receive the wrong diagnosis and medications, which can lead to severe consequences.

The loss of tests or results is another error that can occur. This error can delay diagnosis and treatment, thus worsening a condition.

Patients could receive substandard care in a hospital due to the action of an administrative staff member, and legal action might be a valid avenue for your case.

Recent Wins

$450,000 - Settlement
Personal Injury - (Lake Charles, 2020)

$850,000 - Settlement
MED MAL - (Monroe, 2025)

$2,000,000 - Settlement
Personal Injury - (Lake Charles, 2025)

*****Visit our website for more information about how our firm can win for you*****

Visit Our Website:
townsleylawfirm.com
Check out our Social Media:
@townsleylaw
McNeese Sports:
townsleylawarena.com

Jargon Junction

Learning the Language of the Law

Source: Legal Information Institute - Cornell Law School

kickback **kick · back**

the misappropriation of funds that enriches a person of power or influence who uses the power or influence to make a different individual, organization, or company richer.



Members of the firm participated in a golf tournament put on by the McNeese Men's Basketball team on Oct. 8 to raise money for NIL. Damon Beard, Grant Castillo, Tyler Daigle and David Beard represented the Townsley Team.



In October, the Townsley Law Firm family also attended a wedding. On Oct. 10, TLF's own Baleigh Royer tied the knot with Austin Diamond at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.



The reception followed at Brickhouse Catering and Events. Congratulations Baleigh and Austin!





For Halloween, staff members at TLF dressed up in their best costumes.

In the COMMUNITY

Oktobarfest



On Oct. 10, in this year's annual OktoBARfest celebration, the Townsley Law Firm competed in the gumbo competition.

TLF staff member Donna Landry's husband, Damon, made the gumbo this year and secured second place. The first place winners of the gumbo cookoff were Fuerst, Carrier & Ogden, with Stockwell Sievert Law Firm coming in third.

Every year, the Southwest Louisiana Bar Association Young Lawyers Section hosts OktoBARfest to raise money for their Holiday Helping Hands initiative, that supports families with gifts for Christmas.

The day began at 11 a.m. at Crying Eagle University, and tickets were set at $10.

Law firms from across the Lake Charles area gathered for the gumbo and chili cookoffs, hoping to win first place.

Last year, the Townsley Law Firm won first place in the gumbo cookoff and third place in the chili cookoff.

While unable to defend their first-place title, the firm had a blast with a brand new cooking crew, and still placed in the top three. TLF did not participate in the chili cookoff this year.

TLF is a proud sponsor of this event, and several attorneys in the office help plan and set up the event.



Townsley Talks

Fall Court

On Friday, Oct. 16 at 10 a.m., the Southwest Louisiana Bar Association hosted the annual joint ceremony of the 14th, 36th, and 38th Judicial District Courts.

This ceremony allowed attorneys and judges alike to gather and reflect on accomplishments of association members throughout the year.

This year, TLF's own Hannah Watkins, also President-Elect of the Young Lawyers Section, announced this years' new members.

Inductees, along with their firms, were announced by Watkins, one being Blayden Levens, who was hired at TLF upon his graduation from Southern University Law Center.

Watkins advised the group to "get involved, shake people's hands, introduce yourselves, and ask questions," as they move forward into the working world.





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townsleylawfirm.com
Check out our Social Media:
@townsleylaw
McNeese Sports:
townsleylawarena.com



On Oct. 30, a Louisiana jury decided a verdict in favor of our client, awarding him over $4 million for injuries he sustained due to a negligent doctor.

This medical malpractice claim began in 2017, when our client came to TLF seeking help for his prolonged injury after his esophageal perforation was misdiagnosed.

Instead of properly treating our client, the defendant doctor ran excessive testing, none of which pointed in the direction of what was really going on.

Due to delayed diagnosis, the perforation was left untreated, causing severe and life-threatening infections. Our client had to undergo multiple painful procedures and surgery to repair what was damaged.

TLF was able to help him recover past and future medical expenses, lost wages, among other things with this verdict, allowing him to finally feel justice for the care he received.

October Events

Women's Volleyball

- Oct. 1 - 6:00 p.m. ..... **L**
  vs. Stephen F. Austin
- Oct. 3 - 12:00 p.m. ..... **L**
  vs. Lamar
- Oct. 15 - 6:00 p.m. ..... **W**
  vs. East Texas A&M
- Oct. 17 - 1:00 p.m. ..... **W**
  vs. Northwestern State
- Oct. 29 - 6:00 p.m. ..... **W**
  vs. Southeastern
- Oct. 31 - 10:00 a.m. ..... **W**
  vs. LSU-New Orleans

Men's Basketball

- Oct. 8 - 6:30 p.m. ..... **L**
  vs. LSU (exhibition)
- Oct. 25 - 2:00 p.m. ..... **W**
  vs. Southern (exhibition)

*****Only events in The Townsley Law Arena included – this is NOT a full game or event schedule*****

For full game and event schedules, visit mcneese.edu.

Visit Our Website:
townsleylawfirm.com
Check out our Social Media:
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townsleylawarena.com

The Townsley Law Arena

Home of McNeese State University Cowboys and Cowgirls





In October, McNeese sports were in high gear. The Cowgirl volleyball team has a 10-13 record so far, going 7-2 in the Townsley Law Arena. As the team amps up their energy and momentum, the Cowgirls have the potential to secure even more victories as the conference tournament approaches in November.

Basketball season is also quickly approaching, and the McNeese men's basketball team kicked off pre-season competition with an open exhibition against LSU.

While the Cowboys were ultimately defeated by the Tigers, it was a great game to show where the team needs work and to set a starting point for growth throughout the season. All proceeds made from the Bill vs. Will showdown went directly back to McNeese athletics.

After that exhibition, the Cowboys went on to secure two pre-season victories over South Alabama in a closed scrimmage and Southern in another open exhibition.

RIDE FOR THE BRAND
McNeese Athletics