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# DAVID J. GLATTHORN CIVIL TRIAL LAWYER

AGGRESSIVE, ETHICAL REPRESENTATION FOR OVER 30 YEARS

## COVID-19 Safety Tips

It is April the 7th as I write this, as the newsletters lag by at least a month.

We are all going through a tremendous disruption to our lives and those we know and love. I cannot know what you have conceivably gone through as you read this. Days and weeks seem like years.

We are working remotely. rest assured, although we may be a little slow, we are here for you. Maybe by the time you read this, the precautions will be out -of -date. I pray so. STAY SAFE!

Florida residents are hunkering down to help prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). While we're currently experiencing tough times, this will eventually pass.

Meanwhile, it is critical that Floridians do their best to stay safe. Here's why:

### Traffic accidents are still likely to happen

Many people must still go out to get groceries, go to work and attend medical appointments. That means roadway crashes are still likely.

The statewide shutdown due to COVID-19 has reshaped our streets and roadways. The number of cars on the road has been reduced significantly. Yet there has been an increase in large commercial truck traffic, as deliveries of food and medical supplies still need to be made. With fewer cars on the road, speeding may also become an issue.

### Grocery stores could be unsafe

Many Florida grocery stores are limiting the number of people allowed in each store. The employees and management at many of these stores are working as hard as possible to keep up with demand. In some cases, this could result in basic safety measures being ignored.

Slip and fall hazards may increase during this time due to:

- Unaddressed liquid spills and breakages
- Debris in aisles and walkways
- Water being tracked in from outdoors

### Safety measures to take

We urge everyone to stay safe and strong during these times. We'll get through this. In meantime, you can protect yourself by taking these safety measures:

- Stay home as much as possible
- Wash your hands frequently
- Be attentive when driving or walking
- Be cautious of safety hazards in grocery stores
- Maintain six feet from others
- Call your doctor if you notice any symptoms: fever, cough, or difficulty breathing



If you sustained an injury during this time, an attorney at David J. Glatthorn, P.A. can help. Contact us to find out how. •



# Simple and Spicy Shakshuka

What is shakshuka? It's an egg-and-tomatoes dish popular in the Mediterranean and Middle East regions, and it's easy to whip up some to try yourself!

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 red bell pepper, seeded and diced
- 4 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. cumin
- ¼ tsp. chili powder
- One 28-oz can whole peeled tomatoes
- 6 large eggs
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 small bunch fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 small bunch fresh parsley, chopped



## PREPARATION

- Heat olive oil in a large sauté pan on medium heat. Add chopped bell pepper and onion. Cook for 5 minutes or until onions become translucent.
- Add garlic and spices. Cook an additional minute.
- Pour can of tomatoes and juice into the pan and break down tomato pieces using a large spoon. Season with salt and pepper, then bring the sauce to a simmer.
- Use the large spoon to make small wells in the sauce, then crack eggs into each well. Cover and cook for 5-8 minutes, or until eggs are done to your liking.
- Garnish with cilantro and parsley. •

## May 2020 Notable Dates

**May 1** – School Principal's Day    **May 3** – National Two Different Colored Shoes Day    **May 9** – National Lost Sock Memorial Day    **May 11** – National Foam Rolling Day    **May 14** – National Dance Like a Chicken Day  
**May 18** – National Visit Your Relatives Day    **May 24** – National Scavenger Hunt Day    **May 29** – National Paperclip Day

# From Decoration Day to Memorial Day



The Civil War claimed over 600,000 soldiers' lives, Union and Confederate combined. During the latter stages of the war and shortly after its cessation, communities throughout the country began commemorating the fallen by decorating their graves with flowers, wreaths, and flags, and conducting community-wide observances.

In May 1868, General John A. Logan, a Union hero and commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans, issued a proclamation establishing May 30 as the official day to decorate the graves of those "who died in the defense of their country during the late rebellion." Hence, Decoration Day was born.

On May 30, 1868, President Ulysses S. Grant presided over the first Decoration Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, which four years prior had been the plantation of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The South wasn't eager to observe Decoration Day, objecting to the aforementioned word selection of General Logan's proclamation. They waited until after World War I, when the observance was expanded to include those who perished in all the country's wars.

May 30 was known as Decoration Day through World War II. The term Memorial Day, in existence since 1882, shouldered Decoration Day out of the way shortly thereafter. However, it was not declared the official name of the holiday until 1967.

In 1971, Memorial Day was shifted by law from May 30 to the last Monday in May, assuring a three-day weekend. Some veterans' service organizations, such as the American Legion, are working to restore the original date.

At 3 p.m. this Memorial Day, set down your grilled fare and beverage to take part in the National Moment of Remembrance — 60 seconds to reflect upon those who paid the ultimate price. •

# Pressure Sores a Telltale Sign of Nursing Home Neglect

Pressure sores (a.k.a. bedsores or pressure ulcers) are wounds caused by a lack of blood flow to skin that is under constant pressure, typically in contact with a bed or wheelchair. Underlying tissue dies, breaks apart, and results in an open wound. In advanced stages, pressure sores may expose muscle, tendons, and bone. Skin over bony-protrusion areas such as elbows, heels, the pelvis, or shoulder blades is most vulnerable.

Untreated or improperly treated pressure sores open the floodgates to bacteria, which can result in infection, sepsis, and sometimes death. If a person can walk and easily shift position, pressure sores rarely occur. However, those who are bedridden or immobile may need assistance to avoid them. This describes quite a few nursing home residents.

The good news is that pressure sores, with few exceptions, are preventable. Repositioning bedridden or immobile residents every two hours, inspecting high-risk areas on a regular basis, incorporating a good hygiene and skin-care regimen, and ensuring a healthy diet and proper hydration should do the trick.

If nursing home residents were free of **pressure sores upon admittance to a facility, pressure sores should not occur while they are there.** If they do, it's a strong indicator of nursing home neglect.

Many nursing homes are guilty of understaffing, overworking their employees, and failing to properly train their staff — all in a bid to cut costs. Residents frequently pay the price.

Families have every right to expect that a family member will receive good care at a nursing home. If your loved one develops pressure sores, contact a nursing home attorney for guidance on the matter. •



## May I Have the Language of Origin, Please?

The Super Bowl of spelling bees is the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The E.W. Scripps Company took ownership of the bee in 1941; however, the bee originated under the banner of the Louisville-Courier Journal newspaper in 1925. Their goal was to pump up student interest in an otherwise tedious subject by offering an elevated platform, a trophy, and \$500 in gold coins.

Mission accomplished. An injection of financial incentive never hurts. These days, the victor can look forward to a \$50,000 cash payout, among other prizes. Can you spell “moolah”?

There were co-winners of the bee in 1950, 1957, 1962, and 2014–2016, and eight declared winners in 2019. Each received full cash prizes. To prevent ties, a written tiebreaker was instituted for the 2017 and 2018 bees. Naturally it wasn't needed either year, and bee organizers decided to ditch it. Too many logistical headaches.

Misspellings, obviously, will get contestants booted from the competition, but there are four other exit routes as well. They include not approaching the microphone in time for one's turn, unless there are extenuating circumstances (bathroom emergency, perhaps?); engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct; altering letters in the process of retracing a spelling; and mumbling incoherently while spelling.

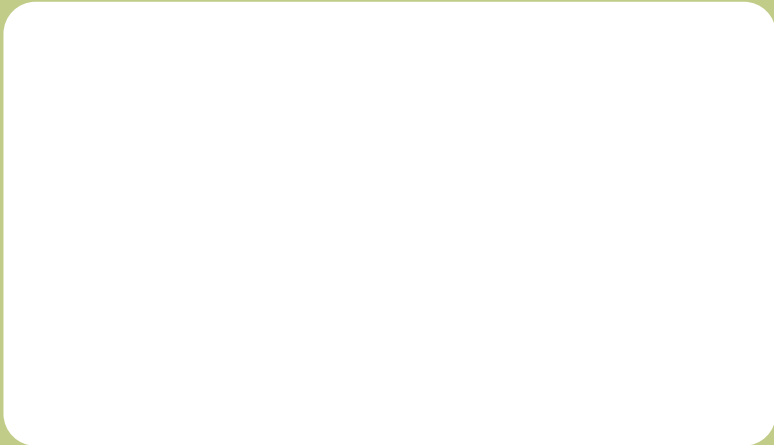
There's also a clandestine element to the bee. The spelling bee word committee (12 members) approves all words used in the competition. But the first rule of membership is not admitting membership. Outside of lead “pronouncer”/moderator Dr. Jacques Bailly — who's been doing it since 2003, assisted for 12 years prior to that, and won the bee in 1980 — the rest are an Illuminati-like mystery. •

By Scripps National Spelling Bee - Flickr: D3S\_7219, CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15989208>





COVID-19  
Safety Tips  
pg 1



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## Shoe on the Other Foot: Distracted Pedestrians

Distracted driving accounts for approximately 10 percent of fatal pedestrian accidents and thousands of serious injuries annually, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. While distracted drivers can be a menace to pedestrians, distracted pedestrians are not helping their own cause ... and can be held liable for vehicle occupants' injuries.

Pedestrian distractions include the usual suspects: multipurpose cell-phone usage, listening to music or audiobooks, or gabbing with a friend, among others. Stepping into the path of a vehicle sometimes accompanies these distractions and can cause injuries to vehicle occupants (and the pedestrian!). In trying to avoid a pedestrian, a driver may slam on the brakes and cause a rear-end collision, or veer and get slammed by another vehicle.

Pedestrians may also be found at fault for pedestrian-vehicle accidents if they cross the street outside a crosswalk; disobey pedestrian traffic signals; walk along highways or bridges where pedestrian access is prohibited; or enter a roadway while intoxicated.

Pedestrians and motorists frequently share the blame for pedestrian-vehicle accidents (e.g., pedestrian was crossing the street illegally, driver was speeding). In these situations, most states utilize a "modified comparative negligence" rule — the percentage of blame an injured party is assigned gets deducted from their damages award. A person typically cannot receive damages from the other party if they were more than 50 percent at fault.

Some states follow a "pure comparative negligence" rule, for which there is no above-50-percent disqualifier. A few use a "contributory negligence" rule. If someone is assigned any fault, they're ineligible to receive damages.

If a distracted/negligent pedestrian causes you harm, contact an auto accident attorney to protect your rights. ●