

ORLANDO **STYLE**

THE CITY'S WHO'S WHO & WHAT TO DO®



JOHN LEIGHTON
ORLANDO'S
LEGAL
ELITE 2014





JOHN ELLIOTT LEIGHTON

"Crusader for victims of serious injuries"

Personal Injury and Wrongful Death/Medical Malpractice

> John Leighton is unlike most lawyers. He doesn't seek out cases. They seek him out. For over 25 years he has represented people who have been seriously injured and families of those killed by negligence. But his cases don't usually come from the public. They come from other lawyers.

That's because Leighton is referred the serious, complex and catastrophic cases from around the state. He is seen as the go-to trial lawyer for major personal injury cases such as medical malpractice, serious trucking and car crashes, resort injuries, violent crime/negligent security injuries and product liability cases.

His track record for Central Florida clients is remarkable. He won a record setting \$24 million verdict for a child who suffered a terrible medical mistake in Altamonte. He recently won another \$24 million verdict for the family of slain Orlando police officer Al Gordon, who was robbed off duty at an ATM.

While many of Leighton's cases garner media attention, in most cases his clients are ordinary people who have had something terrible happen to them. Like the \$5.5 million recovery for the family of a man who was electrocuted in his own pool, or the \$3 million for the Citrus County children of a woman who bled to death when her doctor abandoned her.

Leighton's passion for helping families who have lost their loved ones has resulted in remarkable outcomes. The Orlando family of a teen who was killed in a drunken boating incident hired Leighton, who obtained a \$1.35 million recovery. He won an \$8 million award for the parents of a teen whose daughter was killed when a truck made an illegal u-turn on the turnpike.

His success in obtaining the highest recoveries for crash victims includes \$1 million for a boy injured in an Orlando taxi, and the Orlando man he represented whose motorcycle was hit by a pickup, with Leighton recovering \$3.5 million for him. A few months ago Leighton won a \$7.4 million verdict in Osceola County for a man who lost his leg when a trucker hit his SUV in thick fog and smoke.

After representing victims of parasailing tragedies, Leighton and his client fought for passage of the country's first law regulating the industry following a 7 year battle. The law passed in 2014.

A board certified trial lawyer, Leighton is considered one of the foremost experts in negligent security litigation (people injured from a criminal assault). He is the author of the textbook "Litigating Premises Security Cases," lectures around the world, and is the Chairman of Inadequate Security Litigation for the American Trial Lawyers. He recently trained 85 crime victim advocates at the Orange County Sheriff's Office on how to help victims of crime.

Recognized by his peers as being at the very top of this his field, for 8 years he has been chosen as one of the Top 100 in Florida SuperLawyers, has been repeatedly included in Florida Trend magazine's "Florida Legal Elite," and listed for 8 consecutive years in The Best Lawyers in America. He received his Juris Doctor with honors from the University of Florida. When he is not in court fighting for his clients, he tries to find time to ski, bike and enjoy classic cars. <



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