

# SULLIVAN & HEPLER

Attorneys at Law

Volume 1, Issue 4

1644 BLANDING BLVD, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32210

January/February 2011

904-384-8808

SULLIVANANDHEPLER.COM

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY   WORKERS' COMPENSATION   CRIMINAL DEFENSE   CAR ACCIDENTS

## IT'S A DOUBLE ISSUE!

### HAPPY NEW YEAR, HAPPY MLK DAY AND HAPPY PRESIDENTS' DAY

We are combining our January and February newsletters so that we can bring you The Lost Key Tag program in March. Don't forget to do something nice for your Sweetie on February 14th.

Speaking of Valentine's Day...that reminds me about [This Month's Contest!](#) I am in a bind, folks. I need to come up with a Valentine's Day present for my wife of 19 years, but I am fresh out of ideas. We have a hard and fast rule...no Valentine's Day presents over \$20. So I am awarding a prize to the person with the most inventive idea for a Valentine's gift for Joan. The prize is a \$50 gift certificate to Red Lobster.

All entries must be in writing, via email at [theteam@sullivanandhepler.com](mailto:theteam@sullivanandhepler.com) or by snail mail to our office (1644 Blanding Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32210). All entries must be received by *midnight February 13th*, since this is the time I usually start thinking of a Valentine's present.

Thanks, *Mike*

## LOST KEYS PROGRAM EXTENDED TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Look for your Key Tag to be coming in the mail in March! In case you missed this info in our last newsletter, here is how the Lost Keys Program works. You will receive a tag to place on your key chain. The tag contains a special number that is registered to you in our database as well as a toll-free phone number so that if you lose your keys, someone who finds them can call the number and claim a reward for their return. Our office will provide the reward to the finder. You can feel secure that the person who finds your keys will never know your identity. When the keys are returned to us, we will contact you. This is a **FREE** service!

We have a limited number of extras so if you know of someone who would like to participate please have them contact us by email at [theteam@sullivanandhepler.com](mailto:theteam@sullivanandhepler.com), by regular mail, or by phone. We will need their name, address, phone number, date of birth and an email address if they have one.

### Reward for Lost Keys

If Found Please Call

(800) 295-4193

Registered # 451236

## WELCOME AND THANK YOU!

We welcome all of our new clients who joined us this past month. Also, thank you to all our friends and past clients who have referred folks who needed our services. It's a huge compliment to us! Sullivan & Hepler is proud to represent working people and their families in the areas of Social Security disability, workers' compensation, criminal defense and personal injury.

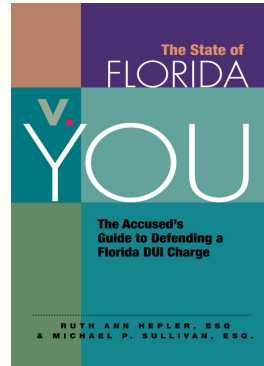


## OUR PUBLICATIONS

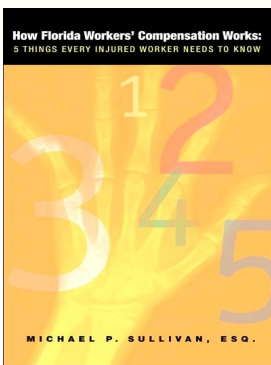
You can call 904-384-8808 or go to [www.sullivanandhepler.com](http://www.sullivanandhepler.com) to order any of our FREE books.



**Cutting Through the Red Tape**  
**Top Ten Things All Florida Social Security Disability Applicants Should Know**



**The State of Florida v. YOU**  
**The Accused's Guide to Defending a Florida DUI Charge**



**How Florida Workers' Compensation Works**  
**5 Things Every Injured Worker Needs to Know**



**Domestic Violence In the State of Florida**  
**Beware: Know Your Rights Get a Lawyer**



## SPOTLIGHT ON SMALL BUSINESS: VOVINAM FITNESS CENTER

Vovinam Fitness Center is run by Master Vui Luong, one of a handful of people in the world who holds a 3rd degree Red Belt in Vovinam. Vovinam is a Vietnamese martial art that incorporates the very best of all disciplines including Kung Fu, Tae Kwon Do, Judo and of course traditional Vietnamese martial arts. Master Luong offers martial arts training, kick boxing, personal training sessions, and yoga.

I have been working out and studying Vovinam with Master Luong since 2002. He is awesome at what he does. If you are considering martial arts training for your child I recommend Master Luong and the Vovinam Fitness Center. He is a real honest to goodness Mr. Miagi. He also specializes in personal training with older folks who have had a sickness or injury, helping to restore their full function.

Master Luong came to the U.S. in 1980 with his wife and young son, knowing no English and without any money. He obtained a position with Lockheed Martin in Indiana, rising to a Senior Computer Systems Engineer. While working, he put himself through college, obtaining a B.S. in computer science in 1998 and an MBA in 2001 from Indiana University. In 2001, he left Lockheed Martin to realize his lifelong dream of running a martial arts school and fitness gym.

Master Luong can be reached at (904) 710-4900 or by email at [invovinam@hotmail.com](mailto:invovinam@hotmail.com). The Vovinam Fitness Center is located at 265 College Dr., Orange Park, FL 32065.



## COLLECTING BENEFITS FROM MULTIPLE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

*RUTH ANN HEPLER*

---

Clients often ask whether they can collect benefits from more than one government program at the same time or whether they will jeopardize their eligibility for Social Security benefits by collecting other benefits. The answers are sometimes complicated, so it's always best to consult with an experienced attorney about the particulars of your situation. But these are some general guidelines.

Social Security disability (SSDI) benefits are based on your prior earnings, and you can collect other benefits you may be eligible for at the same time you are drawing SSDI. The amount of benefits is not dependent on other income you may have. However, in Florida, if you receive workers' compensation and SSDI at the same time the workers' compensation carrier may be entitled to an offset (reduction of benefit).

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits are awarded only to people with limited income and assets. (The medical criteria for eligibility are the same for SSDI and SSI.) If you are receiving other benefits from another program, your income will probably be too high to qualify for SSI.

The Veterans' Administration awards VA benefits to veterans with a service-connected disability. Unlike SSDI and SSI, VA benefits are awarded based on the degree of disability, from 10% all the way to 100%. You can collect VA benefits and SSDI benefits at the same time. You would not be eligible for SSI if your VA benefits put you over the income limit for SSI benefits.

Unemployment compensation benefits are a bit more complicated. The problem is that an application for unemployment means that you are willing and able to work but can't find a job. On the other hand, an application for SSDI or SSI means that you are unable to work due to a disability, even if you could find a job. The receipt of unemployment compensation benefits doesn't always mean that your SSDI or SSI application is doomed, but you should definitely talk to a lawyer about the situation. The amount of unemployment benefits that you receive might be enough to push you over the income threshold for SSI benefits.

If you have any questions about your particular situation, call us for advice! **904-384-8808**

---

### LAWYER JOKE



A golfer hooked his tee shot over a hill and onto the next fairway.

Walking towards his ball, he saw a man lying on the ground, groaning with pain. "I'm an attorney," the wincing man said, "and this is going to cost you \$5000."

"I'm sorry, I'm really sorry," the concerned golfer replied. "But I did yell 'fore'."

"I'll take it," the attorney said.

Rub this on chicken, ribs or even a pork roast a few hours before grilling or smoking. **Enjoy! Mike**



1/2 Teaspoon of dry mustard  
1/2 Teaspoon of onion powder  
1/2 Teaspoon of dried oregano  
1/2 Teaspoon of dried basil  
1/2 Teaspoon of garlic powder  
1/2 Teaspoon of black pepper

(this is what I used last time):

1 Tablespoon of whatever spices you like

1 Tablespoon chili powder

3 Tablespoons kosher salt

8 Tablespoons light brown sugar

Here is my version of Rub the right way:

Here in the South we are very particular about our barbeque. I borrowed this month's recipe from Celebrity Chef Alton Brown. The best thing about it is that you can customize it to your own tastes. The basic premise is an 8-3-1-1 ratio with the last portion being whatever spice you like best.

### **Rub, the right way**

**\*MIKE'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH\***

# SULLIVAN & HEPLER

Attorneys at Law

*Working hard for the hard working since 1995*

1644 BLANDING BLVD, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32210

904-384-8808

**SULLIVANANDHEPLER.COM**



Here comes... *The Scoop!*