

A Publication of the Law Office of Christopher Earley

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We'd like to thank the following clients, attorneys, and referral partners for their wonderful referrals. Your continued support gives us the ability to reach more individuals and make a positive difference in their lives.

- Nicholas O.
- Steve R.
- Peyton S.
- Lori A.
- Mark B.
- · Kelly W.
- Jordan A.









He was getting frustrated because he was having trouble starting the bike on his own without my **help.** But once he got started, he was riding pretty well. I knew though he was uncomfortable with getting the bike started, and that was getting to him. It was frustrating him, and holding him back. One day he and I decided to go on a ride together. He suddenly became very mad at himself and frustrated because he was not able to start the bike on his own. He started screaming. He was so mad. I told him we could just head back home and try again

Suddenly, he decided to try again.
Success! He started on his own
without my help and he was so
happy. As he biked away from me,
he turned his head around at that
moment and was beaming with
pride. That look I will never forget.
It is seared into my brain because
that moment made me feel so proud
and happy for him. He took an
opportunity to get better and seized
it. He broke through. Now, he has
even become a little cocky on the

another day.

Breaking Through

I recently witnessed my son breakthrough. I was helping him learn to ride his bike.

bike and is trying out tricks!

Breakthrough moments are born from challenges. By overcoming these challenges in life, we redefine and reshape what we are actually capable of doing, and what are limits actually are. They push us forward, making us better and stronger. Challenges in life come in all different shapes and sizes. Sometimes, they come out of nowhere.

The pandemic we are all knee-deep in is a real, unexpected challenge.

Life during the pandemic has turned all of our lives upside down. But, no matter the challenge this evil virus brings to us, this is still a really good time to break though. What is it that is getting you mad and frustrated and holding you back right now? No matter what challenges life throws at you, keep pushing in order to break through.

As you can see in this picture, now that Oliver has broken through, I can barely catch-up with him.

- Chris Earley



RORY'S RECIPES: Cranberry Orange Bread



Rory Earley

When I was growing up my Mom ran a restaurant by the ocean that served warm cranberry bread to every guest. I remember eyeing the sheet pans

of fresh bread and always swiping a tiny slice. This recipe from the Magnolia Bakery cookbook is the closest I've come to finding that bliss from the 80's! My next plan is to swap out the cranberries for blueberries and see how that turns out!

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups flour

I cup, plus 3 tablespoons sugar

I I/2 tsp baking powder

I/2 tsp salt

3/4 cup, plus 2 tablespoons of orange juice

I large egg

I tablespoon grated orange zest

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

I cup whole cranberries coarsely chopped

DIRECTIONS:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees & grease and flour a loaf pan.
- 2 Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Set aside.
- 3 In a large bowl, mix orange juice, egg, zest and butter. Add the dry ingredients and mix well. Add cranberries and combine.
- 4 Pour batter into the pan & sprinkle the top with 2-3 tablespoons of sugar. Add a few cranberries on top for decoration if desired. Bake for about 1 hour. Let cool for 20 minutes.

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What You Should Know About Wage Law in Massachusetts

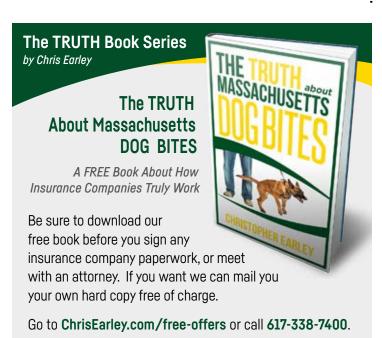
5 What is the Overtime law?

If you are non-exempt, whether you make a salary or are paid hourly, you have the right to receive an extra payment for 1.5 times your regular rate of pay for hours worked in a week over 40. There are many exemptions, but employers often make mistakes. If you are working overtime and not getting paid for it, it makes good sense to consult with an attorney on your exemption status.

Contact Attorney Ortiz if you think your employer has failed to pay your wages.

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Thank You to *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* for recently quoting me.

The case I was asked to comment on involved a tenant who slipped and fell on ice that was on the driveway of the property where he lived. The tenant's lawyers filed a lawsuit against the landlord. The jury ultimately found the tenant's negligence for the accident was greater than the negligence of the landlord. The case was a reminder that just because there is an accident on someone's property, it does not mean the homeowner is legally responsible.



What You Should Know About WAGE LAW in Massachusetts

by Chris Earley

It never ceases to amaze me just how many employers fail to pay their employees what they are lawfully owed. Because my friend and colleague Nicholas Ortiz is a wage law attorney, I asked him to share some insight on this important subject. Here are some answers to commonly asked questions Nicholas was kind enough to share with us:

1 What should I do to recover unpaid wages?

It is always smart to contact an attorney. Wage payment after a complaint is filed is not a defense, meaning that employers cannot delay payment, make you spend money on a lawsuit, and finally pay you without ramifications. The law mandates that an employee who wins their unpaid wages case receive three times their unpaid wages and reasonable attorneys' fees.

2 Can I be fired for bringing a wage claim?

The Wage Act states you cannot be punished for seeking your wages. If you are, you can file a retaliation claim and recover multiple damages and legal fees. Wage-related complaints to bosses or managers can serve as foundations for retaliation lawsuits.

3 When should I get paid?

Your employer must pay your earned wages within six or seven days after the end of a pay period (depending on how long your workweek is). If you are terminated, you must be fully paid, including unused vacation time, on your last day. If you resign, you must be paid on the next payday.

4 Can my employer deduct my pay?

Generally, your employer cannot withhold your full wages or make improper deductions from your wages, even if you have not returned equipment. Usually, non-tax or FICA deductions are only allowed when they are voluntary. Except for lawful garnishment orders, involuntary deductions from wages are generally unlawful.

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