

December Newsletter

The Coye Law Firm wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Thank you and happy holidays



The holidays are a time when we stop to reflect on and give thanks for the blessings of that year. During this special season, taking a moment to remember the important relationships in each of our lives is essential, as it is those relationships which will continue to drive us forward. As our clients, one of the most important relationships our staff members have is with you, and I personally am grateful to each and every one of you for allowing us to be a part of your lives.



The entire staff of the Coye Law Firm wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season, wherever you may travel and whomever you may spend this joyous time with. We wish you, your family, and all your loved ones the best for the new year, and look forward to continuing our valuable relationship with you in 2012.

~ Wade Coye

"Sometimes, you need justice. Sometimes, you need a lawyer."

In November, the Coye Law Firm received an announcement from the United States Patent and Trademark Office that our application to trademark the phrase "Sometimes, you need justice. Sometimes, you need a lawyer" was approved. We were pleased to [announce this](#) to our clients, partner businesses, and the general public in December, and would like to thank everyone for their kind words of congratulations. The Coye Law Firm first began using the phrase in 2008, and it can currently be found on our website, in videos and on radio, and printed on office materials. The phrase embodies Mr. Coye's long-standing attitude toward and belief in fighting for justice for consumers, the injured, the disabled, veterans, and all those needing legal representation throughout Florida. He hopes that the phrase's trademark and continued prominence will encourage Floridians to remember that the Coye Law Firm is on their side, always fighting for legal justice.



Law changes that go into effect Jan 1, 2012

The 1st of January will bring with it changes to both [unemployment](#) laws in Florida and the [minimum wage](#) rate.

- **Unemployment benefits:** The unemployment compensation benefits will change on Jan 1 from the current 26 weeks to between 12 and 23 weeks, depending on the unemployment rate in Florida for the 3rd quarter 2011. The third quarter includes July, August, and September, and unemployment compensation will be based on the average unemployment rate of these three months. The higher the average unemployment rate was during this time, the longer unemployment benefits will be available for people who file in 2012. According to the [Economic Overview and Outlook report](#) for November 2011 from the Joint Economic Committee of US Congress, the unemployment rate in Florida was 10.3% for the month of October, 2011.

You can find out more about unemployment compensation benefits from the [Florida Department of Economic Opportunity](#).

- **Minimum Wage:** Beginning January 1, 2012, the minimum wage for employees will increase \$.36 per hour to \$7.67. The minimum wage for tipped employees will increase to \$4.65 per hour. Employers will need to order new workplace posters, and employees making less than these rates should review their first paycheck of 2012 to confirm the increase has been applied.

If you have questions about these law changes and how they will affect you on a personal or business level, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Meet our three newest interns: Christian, Luis, and Emily



Christian Lexima is a senior at the University of Central Florida, majoring in business management with minors in legal studies and international business. Originally from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Christian is fluent in French and Creole, and is the president of UCF's branch of Club Kreyol - a national organization celebrating Creole culture. Christian studied abroad this summer in Metz, France at the ICN Business School, where he gained valuable experience toward his interest in international business. After graduating from UCF, Christian is considering pursuing both a Juris Doctor (JD) and a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Miami, Florida International University, or Florida Atlantic University. In his spare time, Christian is teaching himself Spanish and enjoys playing guitar.

Luis Perez is a junior at the University of Central Florida, specializing his legal studies in criminal law, with a minor in criminal justice and a certification in crime scene investigation. Born and raised in Florida with Puerto Rican and Cuban heritage, Luis speaks Spanish fluently and is currently improving his Italian. Luis plans to attend law school after graduation from UCF, and aspires to someday become a district attorney and then a judge. His dream is to attend an Ivy League University such as Yale, but he is also excited about the laws schools at the University of Florida and Florida State University. Luis is an avid movie-goer and enjoys political discussion and debate in his spare time.



Emily Haslam is a senior at the University of Central Florida majoring in legal studies. She is a member of Junior Achievement as well as plays soccer for intramural and indoor leagues. Emily's interest in international law and her love of travel go hand-in-hand. She is currently investigating all her options for law school, and is considering schools in Colorado, North Carolina, and Massachusetts. As an international lawyer, Emily aspires to work combating human rights violations, such as human trafficking and warzone cruelty. A nanny for two little girls in addition to her internship and studies, Emily enjoys spending her very rare periods of spare time exploring the great outdoors.

To learn more about these exemplary young adults, and all our intern staff, please visit our [intern profile page](#).



The Coye Law Firm continues to represent consumers and employees in their claims for [personal injury](#), [workers compensation](#), and [Social Security disability](#) benefits. Call our offices today at [800-648-4941](tel:8006484941) to speak with someone who can evaluate your situation and determine if we can help you with your claim.

To learn more about our firm & practice areas, visit coylaw.com or coylawdisabilitycenter.com

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