

# SB @ ISSUE

SHERROD + BERNARD

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE LAW OFFICE OF SHERROD + BERNARD

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## Sherrod & Bernard Turns Seventeen

November 1, 2009 marked our 17th anniversary at Sherrod & Bernard. Much has changed since we opened our doors for business in 1992. Back then Ken and John shared a secretary who worked on an outdated borrowed computer. These days, our firm has tripled in size with the addition of two more well-qualified lawyers and five experienced legal assistants. Long ago, we outgrew our original offices and moved into our current location which we have now doubled the size with an expansion. Most recently, we have opened a satellite office in Carrollton to better assist our clients in West Georgia.

In order to keep you more informed of all that is going on at Sherrod & Bernard, we present to you *SB @ Issue*. The *SB @ Issue* is our periodic newsletter that will provide you with legal tips and information that will help you in your daily life. We also will include relevant information about our firm as well

as up to date news and community events. Over the past seventeen years, we have gained a great deal of information. *SB @ Issue* is our way of passing some of this information on to you.

Although Sherrod & Bernard has seen a tremendous amount of growth and success in the past seventeen years, we are still committed to our original founding principle-providing outstanding legal representation to our clients. Reputation, Respect, Results are what matters most to us at Sherrod & Bernard.

We hope that you enjoy our inaugural issue of *SB @ Issue*. If at any time you have suggestions or comments about our newsletters, we welcome and encourage you to contact us. ■




## Thank you for the referrals...

A referral from a former client or friend is the greatest compliment our firm can receive. We are grateful for every referral – below is a list of the people who recently referred a friend or family member to our firm. We would like to publicly thank each and every one of them by listing them in our newsletter. And again, we say, “Thank You!”

Ashley Bedosky	Jamie Brownlow	Julie Hill Feltault	Scott Rodgers	Sherry Gilley Varnadoe
Christopher Bennett	Deann Chafin	Thomas Huey	Richard Smith	Mike Waters
Kip Berry	Larry Cleveland	John Lewis	William Shelton	Cody Wells
Dusty Bollen	Scott Cochran	Jenna Lybrand	Damon Stamper	Ellen Welsh
Charles Bonner	Gina Davis	Beth Mabry	Myrtle Summerville	Michael Williams
Jim Bowman	James Dooley	Debbie Mayfield	Debra Underwood	Paul Zachos
Conrad Brooks	Krystin Edwards	Charlotte McDuffie	Jerry Valdaró	

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REPUTATION. RESPECT. RESULTS.

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LOCAL: 678-785-4818

Call or visit  
[www.sherrodandbernard.com](http://www.sherrodandbernard.com)  
 and enter your questions.  
 You will get confidential  
 answers from an attorney  
 with no obligation.

## Letter FROM the Editor

Dear Clients,

Sherrod & Bernard wants to take this opportunity to make you aware of a very real risk and serious injury that you may not be aware of. Asbestos exposure can cause a number of life threatening diseases. Sherrod & Bernard has recently begun filing lawsuits on behalf of clients who have been exposed to asbestos. We have discovered that many of our clients were exposed to asbestos while working in the mining industry.

Working around raw asbestos or asbestos containing products can result in the following types of diseases:

- Mesothelioma
- Lung Cancer
- Asbestosis
- Pleural Disease
- Other Cancers:  
Esophagus, Oral Cavity,  
Larynx, Stomach, Colon or  
Rectal

Perhaps one of the most frightening aspects of asbestos exposure and poisoning is that workers can unknowingly put their own family members and loved ones at risk by carrying asbestos fibers into their home on their work clothes. In addition, many workers do not realize that they may have been exposed or make the connection with their current health issues since their exposure was so long ago.

The following is a partial list of possible high risk exposure jobs:

- Pipefitter
- Inspector
- Roofer
- Insulator
- Forklift
- Welder
- Electrician
- Operator
- Steel Worker
- Plumber
- Laborer
- Carpenter
- Textile Worker

I pray that none of these life-threatening diseases have touched you or your families, but if they have, you may have a significant claim. If you believe that you or a loved one has been affected by exposure to asbestos, please contact Sherrod & Bernard immediately at 770-920-8350 and ask for John Sherrod.

Dedicated to your rights,  
Shelly Grizzle  
Editor in Chief, SB @ ISSUE

## Check it out...

We have launched our new website, [www.sherrodandbernard.com](http://www.sherrodandbernard.com). We hope our new user-friendly format allows you to access information easily. You will find facts about our attorneys, photos of our team, results from recent cases and information about the types of cases we handle. If you or a close relative has a new case, make sure you take a look at our Frequently Asked Questions found on the website.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### MIMI'S CHOCOLATE FUDGE

Shared by Beth Riley,  
Paralegal and Legal Assistant



- 1 can carnation milk
- 4 ½ cups sugar
- 1 large package of chocolate chips
- 6 Hershey Bars
- 1 jar marshmallow cream
- 1 stick butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla

### DIRECTIONS

On the stove mix together 1 can carnation milk and 4 ½ c. sugar. Stir constantly for approximately 10 minutes. Boil until the liquid makes a firm ball in cold water. In bowl mix in the chocolate chips, Hershey bars, marshmallow cream and butter. Once the liquid is ready, pour over the chocolate chips, Hershey bars, marshmallow cream and butter and mix. Add in vanilla. (Optional: Nuts). Then pour into a well buttered 9x13 baking dish and refrigerate. *Makes approximately 5 lbs.*

## The spirit of the holidays, offered anonymously

While shopping for Christmas presents, one woman noticed a small girl with her father looking at dolls. Every time she saw a doll that she liked, she asked her father if she had enough money to buy it. Dad usually said, "Yes."

Nearby, a mother and her young son were also looking at toys. But every time the boy noticed something he wanted to buy, his mother sadly told him he didn't have enough money. The boy looked longingly at a Pokemon toy, but ended up selecting a book of stickers.

The girl, meanwhile, had finally settled on a Barbie doll, but when she saw the boy and his mother start toward the checkout, she put her doll down and snatched up the Pokemon toy. At the cash register, she quickly paid and then whispered something to the cashier, who smiled and placed the toy in a bag behind the counter.

When the boy and mother were ready to pay for their purchases, the cashier produced the bag and told the boy that he was the store's 100th customer that day. When he looked in the bag and found the toy he'd wanted, the little boy's face threatened to split with joy.

Then the woman overheard the little girl talking to her father. Dad asked why she'd bought the toy for the little boy. The girl said, "Well, Grandma and Grandpa sometimes buy me things to make me happy, don't they? I just wanted to do the same thing."

## Sherrod & Bernard Gives Back

Both John Sherrod and Ken Bernard believe that they have been fortunate throughout their lifetimes to be presented with multiple opportunities and blessings. Because of their dedication and commitment to their community, both have made it a priority to become involved in supporting local and national charities and non-profits as they try to provide support and services to those in need. Especially during this season of giving, Sherrod & Bernard wants to encourage you to remember all of the blessings and gifts you have received and "give back" to your community by becoming involved in supporting a charity with your time and talents.

Here are just a few of the charities and events that Sherrod & Bernard has contributed to during the past year...



Sherrod and Bernard is a sponsor and participant of the 24th annual Gold's Gym Charity Tennis Event which benefits the Douglas County Boys and Girls Club. [www.bgcma.org/club/douglas](http://www.bgcma.org/club/douglas)



Sherrod and Bernard supports our friend and one of Douglasville's finest, Jay Smith, as he participates in Breast Cancer 3-Day to benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. Good luck Jay and thank you for your efforts with helping to find a cure. [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org)

Sherrod and Bernard has partnered with World Vision, a Christian humanitarian charity organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org)



Sherrod & Bernard supports Camp Twin Lakes a not-for-profit organization that offers year-round recreational, therapeutic, and educational programs for children facing serious illnesses and other physical, emotional and life challenges. [www.campTwinLakes.org](http://www.campTwinLakes.org)

**National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month:** Whichever holidays you celebrate this month, be aware of the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Don't let your holiday turn into a preventable tragedy.

**Hanukkah, Dec. 12-20:** Also known as the Festival of Lights, this Jewish holiday commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians and the subsequent rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem.

**Kwanzaa, Dec. 26-Jan. 1:** A weeklong celebration that emphasizes unity in African-American families.

**World AIDS Day, Dec 1:** Devoted to sharing knowledge and understanding of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome: how it's contracted, how it can be prevented, and how it affects people's lives.

**Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7:** Approximately 3,000 people died in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, in 1941. The attack catapulted the United States into World War II.



Find us on:  
**facebook**

### Search for Sherrod & Bernard

or go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Douglasville-GA/Sherrod-and-Bernard/141192559420>

## Employee Spotlight

### John Sherrod and Ken Bernard

Having become friends during their time in undergraduate studies at the University of Georgia, John and Ken remained friends and stayed in close contact as they both completed their law school education and began their legal careers. John and Ken began Sherrod and Bernard in 1992.



After graduating from law school at Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University, John began as an insurance defense litigation attorney. After leaving the defense side, John has focused his practice solely on defending the rights of injury victims in their personal injury, workers' compensations, wrongful death, defective products and nursing home neglect claims. John lives in Douglasville and has two teenage girls, Sydney and Lindsey. He enjoys playing tennis, traveling and spending time with his family and friends. He is an avid Bulldog fan and is very involved with his church and his community.

Ken, a former Captain in the United States Marine Corps, graduated from the University of Georgia and the University of Georgia School of Law. After completing Officer Candidate School (OCS), The Basic School (TBS), and Naval Justice School, he distinguished himself as a Marine Corps Judge Advocate General (JAG). His military and life experience served him well as he transitioned to his current trial and general counsel practice. At SB, he has handled complex litigation, including personal injury and wrongful death cases, with resolution in the million dollar range. He has served as a Special Assistant Attorney General and was appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue as a member of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), the Governor's Development Council (GDC), and in 2007 as a Regent of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. As a Regent, he currently serves as Chairman of the Organization and Law Committee which oversees the legal affairs of the 35 public universities and colleges in Georgia. He is married toCarolynne, and the couple resides in Douglasville with their son and triplet daughters. Ken enjoys an active life as a father, husband, and youth baseball coach with 2 Georgia Pony Baseball State titles (Mustang 2008 and Bronco 2009). He also participates in various civic, charitable and social organizations.



## Referrals

We want you to think of us as your law firm. If you have a legal matter that needs attention, let us know. If we can't handle the matter, we will refer you to a firm that can.

## Client's Bill of Rights

Lawyers will tell you that it is impossible to offer a guarantee in the legal business. **WRONG!** We say that law firm clients should settle for nothing less! Remember, your attorney works for you – not the other way around.

At Sherrod & Bernard we believe we can promise our clients quality service with personal attention. We believe that as our client you are entitled to have the:

1. Right to loyalty to you and your cause.
2. Right to be updated regularly and in a timely manner as to the progress of your case.
3. Right to our respect.
4. Right to expect competence from our firm and all who work here.
5. Right to know the truth about your case.
6. Right to prompt attention from us.
7. Right to have your legal rights and options explained in plain English without legal mumbo jumbo.
8. Right to a fair written fee agreement with our firm.
9. Right to a fair fee for the work we do.
10. Right to make the ultimate decision on your case.

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**SHERROD BERNARD**

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### **Sherrod+Bernard**

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## Sherrod & Bernard Get Ready for the Holidays!



*We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday.*

## Put your bonus to work

A \$50 bonus may not seem like much at the end of the year, but these days every extra dollar can help you maintain your financial stability. Here are some ways you can make good use of that \$50:

- Cut your credit card debt. If you put \$50 toward a \$2,000 credit card balance, you'll cut your payback time by four months if you usually pay a minimum of \$40 month. Using the \$50 toward the debt can save you \$103 in interest (at 16 percent).
- Buy financial management software. Use the \$50 to help you manage your money better by putting it toward some financial management software like Quicken. It'll help you keep better control of your checking account and help you identify other areas where you can save money.
- Pump up your relationships. Buy something nice for your spouse, partner, friends, family, or co-workers. Remember, there's more to life than money.