



# The Law Offices of Marc L. Shapiro, P.A.

November 2018

720 Goodlette Rd N, Suite 304, Naples, FL 34102 • [www.AttorneyShapiro.com](http://www.AttorneyShapiro.com)

## Making a Connection

### What My Son Taught Me About Law

W

hen I started my law career, I wanted to live that lawyer lifestyle. I'd been introduced to trial law while clerking at a prestigious personal injury firm in Cleveland. After graduating from law school, I moved to Florida to practice personal injury law, motivated to make a bunch of money in order to have a big house and drive fancy cars.

I eventually met the most amazing woman and somehow convinced her to marry me. When Holly became pregnant with our first child, I imagined what it would be like taking him to Little League games, helping with school work, and doing all those things you picture being part of life as a parent. Shortly after our son was born, we discovered our lives weren't going to play out the way we had assumed. Nathan was diagnosed with severe autism, and this realigned all of my priorities.

We went to doctors, specialists, and anyone who could offer some sort of treatment. Most of it wasn't covered by our insurance, but that didn't matter. How could I sleep at night wondering if I had done everything possible to help my child? We spent a lot of money and even dipped into our retirement savings to pay for Nathan's treatment. But again, I couldn't think of retirement when my child was hurting because he wasn't able to easily connect with the rest of the world.

As my family went through the challenges of trying to help our son, I began to recognize the stress I saw in the eyes of my clients. It was the same kind of stress I saw in the mirror. What we have gone through with Nathan isn't the same as what my clients experience after an injury or during their cases, but their pain and struggles are relatable. These clients are often

desperate, stressed, and in search of someone who can help them through a challenging time.

After a bad accident, you worry about having enough money to pay for medical bills, dread what will happen if you don't recover, and suffer through the heartache that comes with realizing your life is no longer going to be the way you imagined it. That kind of stress weighs on you physically and mentally. It took me far too long, but I finally understood what my clients were going through and recognized the responsibility I had. Instead of trying to make as much money as I could, I started to focus on helping as many people as I could.



*“Instead of trying to make as much money as I could, I started to focus on helping as many people as I could.”*

Nathan turned 11 this year, and some days are easier than others. It's hard to have your heart broken a little every day, but I consider myself fortunate. My wife is a strong person, and we see eye to eye. Together, we have supported each other and our son through some hard times. Nathan doesn't speak, but he has a keyboard he types on to communicate with us and his little sister, Arina. He's happy, and that's the important thing.

I want to give my clients the same kind of support Holly has always given me; I want to offer them help and guidance during their struggles. It's hard to accept that our lives won't look the way we had pictured, but when you have someone you can rely on to help you through those hard times, it makes things a little easier.

*-Marc Shapiro*

# Thanksgiving Prep for the Whole Family



Thanksgiving is more than just a feast; it's about coming together as a family and being thankful for one another. So why wait to get into the spirit until everyone is seated at the table? Here are a few ways you can make the actual preparation of Thanksgiving dinner fun and engaging for the whole family!

## Give Everyone a Role

*No, not those rolls — yet.* Making the feast a family project can turn the day from a hectic list of chores into a magical bonding experience. It's important to match each family member to a job that best fits their abilities. Young children can mash potatoes or rinse ingredients in the sink. Older kids can take on more responsibility, like measuring ingredients, keeping an eye on timers, and setting the table. Teens and young adults can supervise their younger siblings and cousins in these important tasks and may be called upon to stir what's on the stove while an adult checks on the football game.



## Roll Out the Decorations

*Still not talking about bread.* Not everything in Thanksgiving preparation needs to

be tied to the kitchen. Creative family members of all ages can work together to bring some seasonal flare to the dining room. Maybe this means picking up some Thanksgiving coloring books, or perhaps the family can venture outdoors to collect autumn trimmings for crafts. It's a great way to let each family member put their own personal spin on the holiday!

## Have a 'Roller Derby'

*Finally.* While an adult should be the one to put these delicious baked goods in the oven, the whole family can help shape the dough. In fact, Care.com recommends making this a contest. Set aside a time when everyone can vie for the title of Fastest Roll Maker, and you'll have plenty of warm, flaky, delicious treats come dinnertime.

Letting everyone play a part may take a little more planning and add slightly more chaos to your Thanksgiving preparations. But it's sure to produce a lot of great memories and bonding moments among your loved ones. And by the time you sit down to eat, you'll all have something to be thankful for right in front of you — *Those. Delicious. Rolls.*



# Big End Ser Small



Size does matter, especially with regard to law firms. If you have been injured in an accident, it's not enough to find a skilled attorney. The outcome of your case and the quality of care you receive may depend on the size of the firm you hire.

## Perks of a Large Firm: Resources and Reputation

On television, all it takes is one really smart lawyer to win a case for a client.

In real life, winning a case demands a few more ingredients. First, there are expert witnesses needed, who can tip the scales with their testimonies. Bringing in experts like this isn't cheap, and smaller firms often don't have the funds to make such important moves.

The ability to bankroll big cases is as important as working with attorneys who have a good reputation. For example, Marc L. Shapiro has 26 years of experience and has a good relationship with insurance companies. Thanks to this professional relationship, insurance adjusters know that if they don't offer a fair settlement to our clients, they will find themselves in court.



# Spicy, C Sweet Po



*Sweet potatoes are a Thanksgiving staple, but they're often the blandest thing on the table. Luckily that's not the case with this recipe, which features Thai spices and coconut milk.*

## Ingredients

- 5 pounds sweet potatoes
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1 cup canned coconut milk
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon Thai red curry paste
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt

# ough to Handle ious Cases, Enough to Care



## Perks of a Small Firm: Quality Care

While large firms struggling with massive caseloads can't dedicate a lot of time to every case, smaller firms have the luxury of treating every case like it's their only case. If a client is struggling with medical bills, a smaller firm can spend hours negotiating with doctors, sometimes reducing medical bills and netting their clients more money. Plus, attorneys at smaller firms can sit down and get to know their clients, learn who they are outside of the case, and make a plan to resolve any fears they have during the case.

## Where Do We Fit In?

When you hire a firm like the Law Offices of Marc L. Shapiro, P.A., you get the best of both worlds: a stable firm with the resources to win your case and a team of experts who will go out of their way to take care of you. Unlike massive firms where you might never meet the person whose name is on the door, Marc Shapiro is hands-on in every case file at our firm.

If you have been injured in an accident caused by someone else's negligence, get the care and resources you deserve by calling (239) 649-8050. Learn what it's like to have a firm that is big enough to handle serious injury cases and small enough to care about the people behind them.

# reamy potatoes



## Directions

1. Heat oven to 375 F. On a large sheet pan, bake potatoes until very soft, approximately 75 minutes.
2. Let potatoes cool until they are safe to handle, then peel and mash.
3. In a small saucepan over low heat, combine coconut milk and curry paste. Once mixed, add the mixture, salt, half the sugar, and half the butter to potatoes.
4. 30 minutes before serving, heat oven to 425 F. Spread potatoes in a baking dish, cover with foil, and bake for 20 minutes.
5. Uncover potatoes and dot with remaining butter and sugar. Broil until brown, crusty, and delicious. Serve hot.

# The *Real* People's Attorney



Earlier this year, the Law Offices of Marc L. Shapiro, P.A., was named best Attorney at Law with the Silver Award in the "Best of Naples 2018" awards. We were truly humbled to be given such a title. Of the awards our firm has won over the years, this is one we are most proud of.

The "Best of Naples" winners are chosen by the people. It was our

clients who gave us this award, after letting us help them during truly difficult times in their lives. We define our success based on how well we are able to serve our clients. Winning "Best of Naples" was a reminder that we are on the right path.

Thank you to all who voted for us and to all our clients who have come to our firm over the years. Your support means the world to us, and we look forward to providing the same high level of quality care and service in 2019.

# Word Search



BLACK FRIDAY

GOBBLE

THANKFUL

COLONIES

GRATEFUL

THANKSGIVING

FEAST

GRAVY

TRADITION

FOOTBALL

POTATOES

TURKEY



# Inside

How We Picture Our Lives  
**Page 1**

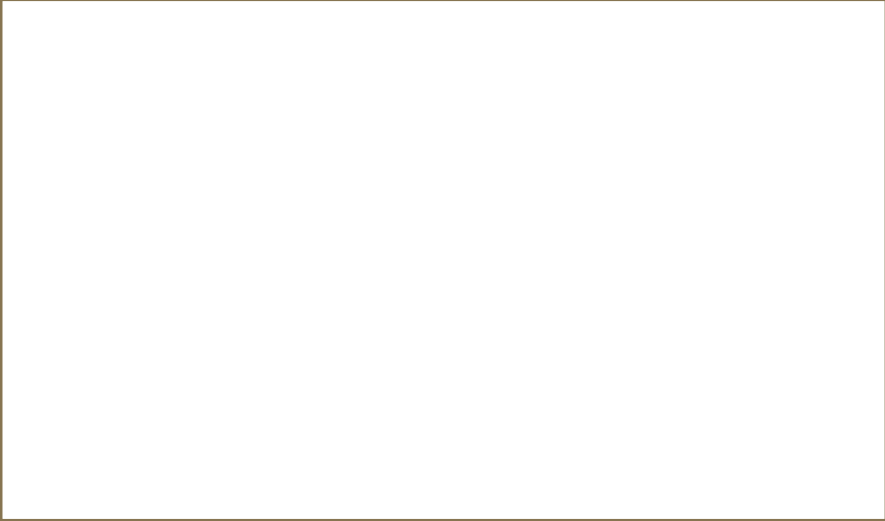
Let Kids Play a Role This  
Thanksgiving

Why You Should Care About the Size  
of Your Firm  
**Page 2**

The People's Attorney

Spicy, Creamy Sweet Potatoes  
**Page 3**

How Thanksgiving Became an  
Official Holiday!  
**Page 4**



# Sarah Hale

## How Thanksgiving Became a National Holiday

Thanksgiving is one of the most popular holidays celebrated throughout the United States. One of the first documented Thanksgiving celebrations took place in 1621, when Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared a feast together. But the banquet, which celebrated the colonists' first successful harvest, wasn't just one large meal, nor did it last for only one day; in fact, the feast lasted for three days.

In later years, Thanksgiving also lasted for longer than a single meal. During the time of the American Revolution, the Continental Congress chose several days throughout the year to celebrate giving thanks. Then, in 1789, George Washington made the U.S. national government's first Thanksgiving proclamation. He used this to speak to his fellow American citizens about the Revolution's satisfactory

conclusion and encouraged them to show their thanks for the freedoms they gained.

Thanksgiving became a national holiday more than 200 years after its first celebration. It gained this status largely due to the persistence of a woman

named Sarah Josepha Hale. Hale was a successful magazine editor, prolific writer of novels and poems, and author of the famous nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb," which was first published in her 1830 collection entitled "Poems for Our Children."

In 1827, Hale began a campaign to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. For the next 36 years, she wrote numerous editorials and countless letters to state and federal officials expressing her desire that it gain official status. In 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln finally declared it a national holiday, hoping that it would help heal the wounds of the country.

Lincoln decided that the holiday would take place on the last Thursday of November. It was celebrated on that day until 1939, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving a week earlier in the hopes of increasing retail sales during the Great Depression. However, this plan was very unpopular, and in 1941, the president reluctantly signed a bill making Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November.

Without the efforts of Sarah Hale, we might not have the pleasure of the Thanksgiving feast we know and love to this day. This year, give thanks for family, good food, and the resolve of one woman who recognized the importance of Thanksgiving as a national holiday.

