



And Remember... “Don’t Talk To Strangers”

Any parent who has a child in college should have a safety discussion with them before they begin the semester. All too often students are so caught up on the experience of being on a new campus and in their new found freedom that they fail to keep some important safety considerations in mind.

One of the most important things for them to remember is to be aware of their new surroundings. Not just geographically, but also of unknown people in the area. Now everyone on a college campus is a friendly student. College campuses are also hunting grounds for various kinds of predators, including:

- **Property and identity**

thieves

- **Bullies**
- **Sexual predators**

Follow these guidelines. Don’t go out alone at night and try to stay in groups. Stay in well traveled areas and use routes that are familiar to you. While out at night, beware of moving vehicles along with suspicious characters. There tends to be more crimes committed at night and less law enforcement to protect you. Plan ahead by making sure that your friends and family know where you are going. Keep your doors and windows locked and your keys secure. Program your cell phone with telephone numbers for police, campus security or other emergency numbers. Make sure your cell phone is always charged and close at hand.

Try not to frequently wear expensive jewelry or walk around with too much money.

Don’t accept any drinks from strangers and be sure not to leave your drinks unattended. Practice internet safety by not divulging your personal and private information. Remember, the internet has little security, no matter how you set your privacy settings.

A few simple rules of thumb. Use the situational awareness mentioned previously. Practice common sense and trust your instincts, as they are usually right. Don’t do anything you would not want your parents or future colleagues to know about later on in life. Enjoy your college experience, but don’t let simple mistake you make now affect your future careers and relationships.

A New Soldier on the Front Line

Roman & Roman, P.A. would like to welcome our newest associate attorney, Michael P. Wilson to the family. Attorney Wilson will be an excellent addition to our criminal and personal injury law practices. He is also featured in this month’s “Behind the Scenes” section on page 4”

Speaking Of **STRONG** Men and Women



Did you know that **Roman & Roman** sponsors over a dozen different sporting and social events each year? Now you can see which events we'll be sponsoring in your community by visiting www.romanromanlaw.com/events.

Roman & Roman not only sponsors the shows and some athletes, we even facilitate their training at our "Tampa Bay Strongman Training" gym located at our Clearwater office. Most Saturday mornings and early afternoons, you can find several of the area's best strength athletes training

for their next competition, wherever that may be. Recently, WTSP Channel 10 News paid us a visit to find out just what goes on at a strongman training facility. We also have several passersby stop to witness these athletes accomplish amazing feats of strength and endurance. If you ever find

yourself on State Road 580 in Clearwater on a Saturday morning, you might just witness a few of our champions and future champions preparing themselves for battle.

 

Check us out on Facebook at [Facebook.com/romanandromanlaw](https://www.facebook.com/romanandromanlaw) and Twitter at twitter.com/Plattorney.



Avoid the Long Vacation

The consequences of a probation violation are serious. If you or an individual you know has been convicted of a crime in the state of Florida and are currently on probation, there are certain rights in which you need to be aware of. Attorneys at **Roman & Roman** can immediately offer you guidance and explain all available options to you, from having a violation of probation warrant withdrawn, to taking the necessary steps in order to get a violation of probation charge dismissed.

The following information should be understood in order to ensure that you do not risk a violation of probation. Individuals on probation are free from prison for the time being, but are still supervised closely by the state of Florida, and any violation would allow the State to sentence the individual up to the maximum sentence the original charge would carry. An individual on probation must (in most cases) regularly report to their probation officer their address, progress in completing conditions (i.e. community service hours, court-ordered classes, etc.) and submit to random drug screens. Additionally, while an individual is on probation, they must be aware that their probation officer does NOT need a warrant to search their residence. Normally, police would need a warrant to search someone's home, but if the in-

dividual is on probation, police DO NOT need one.

Violating probation often results in imprisonment. Just because you are on probation does not mean you are immune from still going to jail or prison. As mentioned earlier, a violation of probation would allow the judge to sentence you up to the maximum sentence the original charge would carry. Probation can be violated in any number of ways, most commonly occurring due to individuals failing to regularly report to their probation officer, committing another crime while on probation, testing positive for drugs, changing residence without notifying probation, falling behind on paying costs, or falling behind on completing court-ordered classes or community service hours. To understand your rights while on probation or if you find yourself in violation of probation, contact **Roman & Roman** for assistance. We will be able to offer you guidance and explain all available options to you, from having a violation of probation warrant withdrawn, to taking the necessary steps in order to get a violation of probation charge dismissed.

Should your Florida probation officer allege a violation of probation, a judge may sign an arrest warrant. This violation of probation arrest warrant typically has a "no bond" provision, meaning that unless you obtain help from an attorney who can get you into court quickly, you may end up spending time in jail until your probation violation case is re-

solved, and this can sometimes take weeks or months.

If you do believe that there is a possibility that you have violated probation, do not stop reporting to your probation officer. Should you fail to report because you believe you will be arrested for a violation, your failure to report can may cause additional issues and grounds for violation. Failing to report may also result in a court being less inclined to provide additional chances for probation completion when you find yourself before a judge.

If there is the potential that your probation officer may allege that you violated probation, contact the attorneys at **Roman & Roman**. We can contact your probation officer on your behalf and request additional time to comply with probation terms. If you are taken into custody on violation of probation, we can file for an emergency bond on your behalf and have your case reviewed by a judge in days, instead of weeks.

Contact **Roman & Roman** to review your case and answer any questions you may have regarding violation of probation.

-Michael R. Lentini, Esq.



NAS Sponsored Strongman Championship

For the past several years, Roman & Roman, P.A., has sponsored the North American Strongman (NAS) Florida Strongman Championships. This year, we took it a step further by presenting custom medallions to each event winner and a large cash prize to this year's State Champions in each division. For the first time in its eight year existence, the State



Championships took place at Quaker Steak and Lube in Clearwater, Florida. Despite the extreme winter conditions the competitors and attendees had to endure, the show was a huge success. Congratulations to this year's Florida State Strongman Champions.



Roman & Roman sponsored athlete and North American Strongman's 2010 National Champion, Brandon McDonald, holding his National Championship trophy.

Behind The Scenes



Attorney Michael P. Wilson was born in Clearwater, FL, and graduated from Countryside High School in 1996. He then earned

a Bachelors Degree in 2001 from Saint Leo University, followed by a Juris Doctor degree at Stetson University College of Law. While at Stetson, Michael participated in the Judicial Internship Program for the Sixth Judicial Circuit - Pasco County, FL, and the Public Defender Clinic for the

Sixth Judicial Circuit - Pinellas County, FL. Michael has been representing clients in private practice since 2005, mostly in the areas of criminal defense and personal injury law.

His most recent accomplishment was commissioning as an officer in the United States Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps. As a JAG officer, Michael practices law in several legal areas including administrative law, criminal law, fiscal/contract law, operational law, and legal assistance. When not at work or

serving his country, Michael enjoys spending quality time with his wife and two sons. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, firearms, and weight lifting. Michael has competed in several power lifting competitions throughout the years and continues to support competitive strongman events.

