



Personal Injury Attorney: Alexa D'Amato Barrera to the Rescue!

By Alexa D'Amato Barrera, Esquire

Raising three boys is awesome!!! We are Superheroes, Lego Master Builders, Jedi Knights and Ninja Warriors. My husband and I wanted a large family. Five kids was a number we threw around a few times. God blessed us with our three boys, born within three years.

Paul was six months old when we got pregnant with Massimo, and Massi was nine months old when we found out that our youngest, Rocco, would be joining our crew. When Rocco was born, Paul had not yet turned three years old. One week each year our kids are each one-year apart. This July, during that week, the boys will be four, five, and six. We have decided to be thankful for having a busy, loud, lego-filled house and quit while we can still maintain our sanity (most of the time, at least).

There were times I questioned whether I should become a stay-at-home mom. Being a stay-at-home mother is the hardest job there is. It's just not the right fit for me. I hear women say that they're better mothers because they work. For me, working is not about being a better mother. Being a mother of three boys makes me a better personal injury attorney.

In my practice I have chosen to represent and advocate for people who have been injured. My clients have lost loved ones or suffered serious injuries, many of which are catastrophic. I told the story in a previous article about why this area of the law has my heart, but simply, I want to help people who have had their lives turned upside-down by tragedy because of someone else's carelessness. My boys are young and I have tried to explain to them what Mommy does for work. They equated it to being a warrior, like a Ninja or Jedi. My oldest, Paul, said when he was younger, "You fight for people's rights? What about the lefts?"

Being a personal injury attorney, I am asking my clients to trust me with intimate, personal information. Unfortunately, sometimes the victim becomes the accused. That happens in my profession more than I would care to admit. As you know from my last article, there is always insurance, so I work daily with insurance adjusters pointing to the smallest little thing in my client's past to say why their case is not worth much. Insurance adjusters aren't bad people. They're doing their job, which is to save the insurance companies money and perpetuate multi-billion-dollar profits in the insurance industry. This shouldn't be a surprise. Do you really think your insurance company is there to protect you, like some of these commercials would like us to think?

It is my job to fight for my clients and show the insurance company what makes them a human being who has suffered a loss and not just a potential negative on their Wall Street profit statement.

We all lead different lives. How a tragic injury may impact your life is likely quite different than would impact someone else's. Many people find it hard to let others into their personal lives. Everyone has something that has happened to them or a loved one that is hard to talk about. Just the thought of that event or situation can bring up emotional memories or tears. We tend to avoid talking about the hard stuff. For my clients, they have to talk about the hard stuff every time we meet. I have to be a warrior to fight for them against the insurance company, but also be compassionate and nurturing so that I can understand how this incident has impacted their lives. That's why I say,

"Being a mother of three boys makes me a better personal injury attorney." I truly enjoy playing Star Wars with the boys one minute (being a warrior) and then snuggling on the couch with them the next, discussing what they learned at school. Just as I truly enjoy developing relationships with my clients and getting to know how this event has impacted their lives (caring and nurturing our relationship) so that I am arming myself with the proper weapons to fight for them.

Right now the boys might not understand everything I do in my practice, but in their minds I am like the Superheroes who help people in their time of greatest need.



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