



FEATURED STORY:

NINE YEARS KIDNEY STRONG

A message from Scott Snellings



Nine years ago, on October 31, my best friend and hero, Jacob Thompson, and I were wheeled into surgery together. He gave me one of his kidneys. His wife was eight months pregnant at the time... There are not enough words for what that means to me, and there probably never will be.

The road to that operating room was a long one. I had known since 2007 that a transplant was coming. A condition requiring medication had been quietly shutting my kidneys down, and for nearly a decade I focused on staying as healthy as I could, building my career, and making the most of the time I had. When the moment finally came and I had to ask people to consider donating, I was not sure I had the humility for it. What happened next changed me. My best friend said yes immediately. Without hesitation. God willing, Jacob was a match. And on Halloween, we went into surgery together.

What I remember most about that season of life is how full it was despite everything. I was building Snellings Law, sharing life with my wife, Sara, and raising Emma,

Olivia, and Jacob, all while carrying that looming reality in the background. There is something about knowing your time is precious that makes you less willing to waste it, and I think that shaped the kind of firm I set out to build and the kind of leader I wanted to be. We named our son Jacob after the friend who would one day give me his kidney, and I think about that every time I hear his name.

Asking people to consider donating a kidney is one of the hardest things I have ever done. It requires a kind of vulnerability that does not come naturally to me. I was not sure anyone would say yes, and I certainly was not prepared for how quickly Jacob did. The generosity I experienced in that season is something I have never forgotten. It changed the way I think about community, about friendship, and about what people are capable of when someone they love needs them.

Nine years later, I do not spend much time looking back at the fear of those early days. What I feel now is mostly gratitude. Gratitude for Jacob. For my supportive family.

For the chance to keep showing up for my kids, my wife, my team, and the clients who walk through the door of Snellings Law every day trusting us with some of the hardest moments of their lives.

Every October 31st is a reminder that none of it is guaranteed. The work, the relationships, the mornings with my kids, the firm I have spent nine years building. It is all a gift, and I try to treat it like one. This year, like every year, that day will be sacred. Not because of what was almost lost, but because of all the blessings I have received.

Nine years kidney strong, and still going.



JACOB AND SCOTT WITH THEIR WIVES
THE NIGHT BEFORE SURGERY.



It is all a gift, and I try to treat it like one.
- Scott Snellings





DID YOU KNOW?

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES ARE ONE OF THE MOST UNDERDIAGNOSED INJURIES AFTER A CAR ACCIDENT.

Most people walk away from an accident thinking they are fine. No broken bones, no visible injuries, nothing that sends them straight to the emergency room. What they do not realize is that one of the most serious injuries they could have sustained may not show itself for days or even weeks.

Traumatic brain injuries, commonly known as TBIs, occur when a sudden impact or jolt to the head disrupts normal brain function. In a car accident, this can happen even without a direct blow to the head. The force of the collision alone can cause the brain to move inside the skull, resulting in damage that may not be immediately obvious. In fact, some of the most serious TBIs our team has seen came from accidents that the client initially described as minor.

The symptoms are easy to miss or dismiss. Headaches, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, memory problems, mood changes, and sleep disruptions can all be signs of a TBI. Because these symptoms often feel like stress or general soreness after an accident, many people never connect them back to the crash at all. They push through, chalk it up to being shaken up, and move on. Weeks later, when the symptoms have not gone away, they may not even think to mention the accident to their doctor.



Here are four important things to know about TBIs after a car accident:



Delaying medical attention can make it harder to link your injury directly to the accident, giving the insurance company reason to dispute your claim.



Not all TBIs show up on standard imaging. A normal CT scan does not rule out a brain injury. Specialized testing and evaluation by qualified medical providers may be necessary to accurately diagnose and document your injury.



Symptoms can evolve over time. What starts as occasional headaches can develop into chronic pain, cognitive difficulties, or emotional changes that affect every area of your life.



The long-term impact of an untreated TBI can affect your ability to work, your relationships, and your quality of life in ways that deserve full and fair compensation.



THE BOTTOM LINE

If something feels off after an accident, even if you cannot put your finger on what it is, get evaluated.
What you do not know can hurt you.





THE SNELLINGS SIDEBAR

THE HARDEST CONVERSATION IN THIS JOB

Last month, I told you about the strangest case I've ever handled. This month, I want to talk about the hardest part of the job. It isn't trial, a tough opponent, or a late night of preparation. It's the moment I have to tell a family there is nothing we can do.

Just last month, a family came into our office after a crash that wasn't their fault. They were hurt, the medical bills were already arriving, and they were looking to us for answers. We dug in. The driver who caused the crash had no insurance. The family had no uninsured motorist coverage on their own policy. We looked for anyone else who might share responsibility and for any assets the at-fault driver had. We found nothing.

There was no claim we could make for which there was someone to collect from. The family did nothing wrong, and they were still left with the bill. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident and happens way too often.

The good news is that this is one of the most preventable problems I see. Uninsured/underinsured motorist (UM/UIM) coverage protects your family when the person who hits you has no insurance, or not nearly enough. In Texas, insurers have to offer it, but you can reject it in writing, and many people do without realizing what they're giving up. You can usually buy UM/UIM up to the same limits as your liability coverage, and it is one of the most cost-effective protections you can add to your policy.

Take five minutes this week. Pull out your declarations page or call your agent and ask one question: "Do I have the maximum UM/UIM coverage available?" If the answer is no, fix it.

That's one conversation I'd be glad never to have again.



OUTSIDE THE BOX

THE DESK & EASEL WENDY ACOSTA

What happens when the place you built your business around is suddenly gone? For **Wendy Acosta**, that question became very real when The Desk & Easel's original location was destroyed in a fire. What she discovered in the aftermath changed the way she thought about everything she had built.

The building was gone. The community was not.

In this episode of Outside the Box, Wendy shares the story behind The Desk & Easel, how she rebuilt in downtown Denison, and why creating a space where people can connect, belong, and grow has always been the real mission.

From coworking spaces and private offices to a brand-new outdoor event space, The Desk & Easel is building more than a place to work. It is building a place where people find their people.

It is a story about resilience, community, and what it really means to show up for the place you call home.



YOU FOCUS ON HEALING.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING ELSE.



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COMMUNITY SERVICE CORNER

NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

North Texas Giving Day brings the community together for one of the largest regional giving events in the country. Hosted by Communities Foundation of Texas, the annual campaign connects donors with thousands of local non-profits across more than 25 cause areas, with 100% of every donation going directly to the organizations. In 2025 alone, more than 100,000 North Texans gave \$78 million to local causes in a single day.

This year, Snellings Law was proud to direct our donation to Melody of Hope, a DFW-based nonprofit that uses the power of live music to uplift local artists and support nonprofits throughout the community.

We had the pleasure of sponsoring their live event earlier this year, and the experience reminded us exactly why this organization deserves support. What they have built goes beyond a concert. It is a platform for artists and a lifeline for the causes they champion.

North Texas Giving Day is a reminder that generosity does not have to be complicated. Showing up for your community can be as simple as choosing an organization you believe in and getting involved. We are glad we could be part of it this year.

