



Orlando L. Blanco

Blanco Wilczynski PLLC
Troy

Fluent in three languages, Blanco is a Troy lawyer who has built a successful practice representing providers of pre-hospital medical care and related services – paramedics, EMTs, firefighters, ambulance companies and other first responders.

Background:

I grew up in Kalamazoo. At the age of 13, I landed my own ice cream delivery route. I wasn't old enough to drive, so I had to push a delivery cart on wheels around the neighborhood while ringing the bells. My brother, sister and friends ate all of the profits! I was out of business in all of one summer.

Important mentor(s):

My mother taught me by example about family, the value of hard work and perseverance. My father taught me that freedom, honor and doing the right thing come at a very expensive price. Outside of family, I was blessed to have three very influential men in my life, two high school football coaches, and

a close family friend with a PhD in Life, who taught me that everything important in life stems from a solid character and foundation.

Biggest accomplishment:

Earning the trust of a very loyal clientele in the ambulance industry, brick by brick.

Advice to law school self:

Go back and read that civil procedure and evidence rule and case again and again. It is the building block of everything else you will do as a trial lawyer.

Biggest professional challenge:

Starting my own law firm. It makes you quickly realize all the things you took for granted.

Achieving balance:

Plan your personal life events just like you do in your professional life. Grab your new calendar book at the beginning of every year and cross out a block of time for yourself. Guard that time religiously and put down the laptop and Dictaphone



Education: Bachelor of Business Administration, University of Michigan; J.D., Wayne State University Law School

long enough to recharge the batteries.

If not a lawyer, I would be:
Baseball coach.

Guilty pleasure:
Sportmints (Fabrique en Suisse). They are truly addicting.

Favorite book/movie:
Book: "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand.
Movie: "It's a Wonderful Life."

Favorite vacation spot:
Our summer family home in South Haven.

Five guests for a fantasy dinner party:
My wife and four wonderful

children. I know, I know. It sounds boring and corny, but only to those who have never met them. Never a dull moment!

You don't know:
I was born in Havana, Cuba, and had lived on three different continents by the time I reached the age of 10. My father was a Cuban diplomat and my family lived in some very interesting places. I did my first four years of formal education in French and, at one time or another, spoke as many as five different languages.

I am...:
Loyal.