

Top 5 Common Lawyer Errors and What You Should Do If You Mess Up¹

Page's Rules – Perspectives from Debtor's Counsel

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¹ This paper is a companion paper with Steve Wilcox's paper. There are more than 5 errors.

I am a child of the '60s. Not just the '60s, but Detroit²—the home of Motown music and the automobile. Henry Ford³ is best known for the development of the assembly line technique for mass production. It was said that Berry Gordie used that same technique for his Motown artists. And that technique can be used in consumer bankruptcy practice to help avoid mistakes.

Growing up in Detroit meant that summers were spent perfecting your routines with your groups (because you never knew if you might be the next Motown act so everyone had a group), watching Tiger baseball and trips to Edgewater Park (a 20-acre park that opened in 1927 and was one of Detroit's popular recreation spots⁴—think Six Flags). My favorite ride was the bumper cars. I think the bumper cars were good training for the practice of law. "Each car has a large rubber bumper all around it, which prolongs the impact and diffuses the forces of the collision."⁵

We can have the Henry Ford precision assembly line in our practices, but we are human and we are dealing with people, so mistakes can happen. We need to be sure that our large bumpers are in place so that we can diffuse the force of the collision in order to minimize the impact.

² Filed a Chapter 9 on July 18, 2013

³ He launched The Ford Motor Company after 2 bankruptcy filings. #bankruptcyisbeautiful

⁴ detroithistorical.org

⁵ <https://www.learner.org/exhibits/parkphysics/bumpcars.html>

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"When You Really, Really Mess Up: Some Practical Ideas for Fixing, or at Least Mitigating,
Common Bankruptcy Practitioner Errors"