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 The law offices of  
**Robert T. Edens**



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# THE LEGAL SPOTLIGHT

## BOB EDENS EXPANDS FIRM

### ATTORNEYS BOB EDENS & SCOTT SPAULDING WILL FORM EDENS & SPAULDING ASSOCIATES

As Bob's commitment to bringing legal protection to citizens of Lake & McHenry Counties grows, so does his downtown Antioch law firm.

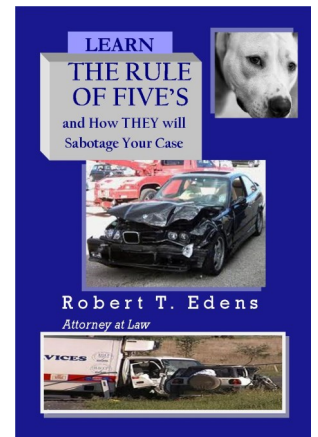
This month attorney Robert T. Edens will add attorney Scott Spaulding to his legal team. Spaulding brings 17 years of legal experience in defending clients, civil and family law. Their combined experience of 37 years is superior to many of the surrounding firms. . Additionally, Edens & Spaulding Associates will now have convenient of-

fice locations not only in Antioch, but in Barrington, Grayslake and Waukegan for their clients convenience. The Waukegan office is just **X** blocks from the Lake County Court House.

Bob will continue to represent Personal Injury victims and Worker's Compensation Claimants, while Attorney Scott Spaulding will take over the legal defense area of the firm.

Clients with pending court dates, currently being defended by Bob, will not be effected but going forward new and returning defendants will be represented by Attorney Scott Spaulding.

Scott is a lifelong resident of Lake County, IL and has represented hun-



dreds of clients with complex legal cases. As previously stated, Spaulding brings 17 years of legal defense experience and a record of successfully defending

# Worker's Compensation, Not Always From an Accident

An injury need not be caused by a sudden accident such as a fall or equipment malfunction. Injuries due to repeated physical motions including back strain from lifting heavy boxes. Physical conditions that are aggravated by workplace conditions—such as emphysema made worse by airborne chemicals -- may also be covered. And, workers can sometimes be compensated for the effects of psychological stress caused by the job.

With a few exceptions, any injury that occurs in connection with work is covered. The legal requirement is that employees are protected by workers' comp as long as the injury happened "in the course of employment." For example, a cable TV repair technician would be covered by workers' comp while making service calls to customers, but not while traveling to and from work or going to a purely social dinner later that evening.

For the most part, worker's compensation is a "no-fault" system of

benefits, meaning that even if the employee causes their own accident through carelessness, they are entitled to worker's compensation. The exception to this would be if an employee is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol or engaged in willful misconduct such as fighting when the injury occurred.

## REPEATED MOTION INJURIES

The most rapidly growing category of work-related injuries is caused by repetitive motions of the body, also known as repetitive stress injuries (RSI's). The most common one is carpal tunnel syndrome but many other parts of the body are susceptible to these types of injury as well. In fact, a recent study found that employees who were dissatisfied with their jobs were twice as likely to develop repetitive stress injuries.

Typical symptoms of repetitive motion injuries can include any, or all of the following; redness, swelling, pain and numbness. If detected early, repetitive motion injuries

can often be cured with a short period of rest. However, if ignored, these injuries can cause lifelong disabilities.

Healthcare professionals recommend the following to avoid RSI's:

1. Take frequent, short breaks when doing repetitive motion work.
2. Do gentle stretches periodically throughout the day paying attention to the areas that are prone to RSI's.
3. Watch for early symptoms of distress such as stiffness or discomfort.
4. Reposition yourself frequently to take the strain off of areas prone to stress injuries.
5. Remember, all it takes for a major injury is a minor mistake. Don't underestimate the demands of what seems to be an easy task.



## TESTIMONIAL

After getting injured at work and not being able to support my family, I was fortunate when someone recommended Attorney Bob Edens. After explaining my frustration, he told me that I would no longer have to talk to the adjuster because his office would take care of everything and they did! He gave me a copy of his book and I was able to understand very clearly that I was just getting the run around from the insurance company when I thought they were sincerely trying to help me.

*Donna F. Antioch, IL*

# A WARNING ABOUT SETTLEMENT CALCULATORS

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**Be warned**, settlement calculators are designed by insurance companies to influence what they want you to believe your case is actually worth. The insurance companies know the first place people go to research anything these days is online. Therefore they go to great lengths to ensure that one of the first things you will find is a settlement calculator. These are cleverly crafted websites or online advertising pages disguised as helpful tools “to identify what your injuries are worth.” The problem with this is obvious; it is completely biased in favor of the insurance companies. Below is a statement similar to one you might find on an actual insurance company’s website.

***This settlement calculator will help you add everything up and provide you with your claim amount quickly so you can get paid and caught up on your bills. Just click on the structured settlement calculator and the settlement wizard will walk you***

***through the process. When you are through answering the questions click submit and your information will be sent to our payout department and your check will be on its way within 24 hours.***

Sound too good to be true? Well it is. . . By submitting your information and clicking the box marked “*terms and conditions*” you have just accepted this settlement amount and will be forever barred from collecting any more money for your accident and injuries.

The insurance companies know that injured people often need money to support their families, pay their rent, transportation costs, doctor’s bills and so on, and so on.

Often victims fall prey to the pressures from the loss of income and the insurance companies in turn, prey on this too.

**DON'T BE VICTIMIZED  
A SECOND TIME BY THE  
INSURANCE COMPANY!**

Attorneys very often offer a free consultation and an honest, experienced lawyer will be very candid about what your case is worth. I highly recommend you take advantage of this service, either by me or another attorney whose practice is focused on personal injury and has handled your specific type of injury.



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***We would like to thank those clients who have referred us cases. Our survival depends on your continued support.***

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**THE RULE OF FIVE'S**

and How **THEY** will Sabotage Your Case



**Robert T. Edens**  
*Attorney at Law*



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