



## **Buttafuoco & Associates PLLC Amplifies Competitive Edge and Eliminates IT Woes with Legal Workspace**

Daniel Buttafuoco hung the shingle for [Buttafuoco & Associates PLLC](#) in 1981. Since then, the New York-based personal injury and medical malpractice law firm has taken on thousands of cases and helps clients nationwide. One thing that did not grow with the firm, however, was its IT.

Rob Taormina, who has been with Buttafuoco & Associates since 2011, explains, "We had an in-house server – the same setup we've had for 20 years. The firm had no remote access. Our lawyers would take entire printed case files to court. It felt like we were in the Stone Age."

For Taormina, tackling IT turned into a time-consuming venture.

"I handled IT along with another staff member. We understood IT but had challenges executing the details. It just wasn't our area of expertise. Every time there was a technology hiccup, we left our job responsibilities to address it. We'd work with outsourced IT support, and they'd have to diagnose the problem or come in and troubleshoot it all on-site. It was a long process," he shares.

Ensuring business continuity proved challenging as well.

"Backing up data was a tedious and stressful process," he comments. "There's a lot of risk and liability involved. It was a manual process, and backups were stored in the same building as the server. One time, we had a power outage and lost a week's worth of data as a result."

While the firm managed to get by with status quo IT, it was forced to reassess when its server started to decline.

"The server was failing significantly and needed to be replaced, which would cost the firm a substantial amount of money," he says.

### **The Seamless Transition to Legal Workspace**

"The server's failing was a blessing in disguise because it gave us the opportunity to explore the cloud and bring in the latest and greatest in technology," comments Taormina.

Buttafuoco heard about Legal Workspace through the software vendor LawBase.

"We were evaluating new web-based case management solutions at the same time the server was failing. Frankly, we weren't thrilled with any of them. The firm had used LawBase for more than 15 years. Attorneys and staff liked working with it. However, it needed a server. That's what led us to Legal Workspace," explains Taormina.

Legal Workspace would allow the firm to move all its technology to the cloud and still use its preferred legal and business applications, meaning it could continue to use LawBase.



“Legal Workspace let us keep LawBase. The company could make the transition on the back end, but nothing would change for the staff. It’s the same system with no new training. That seamlessness was an incredible benefit,” he says.

The implementation process demonstrated the company’s vast experience enhancing IT for law firms.

“Legal Workspace jumped into our network, identified challenges and offered solutions that worked. It was a wonderful and very safe process. They knew IT and were committed to getting the firm up and running in a timely manner. Since it was a big move for us, it was nice to have that level of comfort with Legal Workspace and its team during the transition. They are the Yoda of IT – just a brilliant team,” explains Taormina.

### **Gaining a Competitive Edge While Saving an “Incalculable Amount of Money”**

Since the firm joined Legal Workspace in 2015, Taormina has seen significant decreases in time spent within the firm on IT.

“I honestly do not think about IT anymore. I spend zero percent of my time on it,” he comments. “Legal Workspace handles all the IT updates, which ensures our technology stays secure and works well. They have redundancies, which we didn’t have before. No one thinks ‘Is our IT going to function?’ It just does.”

More importantly, the firm can now access case files no matter where attorneys may be or what device they are using.

“The remote and mobile access is a massive benefit. Lawyers no longer lug entire case files to court. They open a laptop and get anything they want, which is a competitive edge over our adversaries. In this line of work, access to information when you need it is critical. The second you delay that process, you delay results for the client and lose money for the firm. It’s almost incalculable how much money we’ve saved with Legal Workspace,” explains Taormina.

Overall, the firm has had a very positive response to Legal Workspace.

“Legal Workspace is as perfect as I can imagine,” he shares. “I have no complaints. They’re a 10.”