

Date: February 11, 2026  
Subject: Cease and Desist Notification for Online Genealogy  
Author: Michael E. Byczek, Esq.  
Chicago, IL (U.S.A.)

To whom it may concern,

All genealogy and social media platforms pose a risk of fraud, cyber-bullying, intimidation, identity theft, scams, “bait”, fake images/documents (i.e. AI-generated), social engineering, trolling, slander/libel, and other inappropriate online user conduct.

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney and software engineer, has spent nearly two years aggressively safeguarding the integrity and dignity of his direct blood ancestors in the digital afterlife. This includes all forms of misinformation and third-party interference on various online genealogy platforms, such as ancestry.com, familysearch.org, and findagrave.com.

As an attorney, Michael E. Byczek does not play games with anybody, especially when it comes to protecting his family (living and deceased). He advocates that only verified and fully identified direct blood descendants of common ancestors, or those in their immediate family (i.e. adoption), have the authority to upload genealogy to these websites.

Anonymous users consistently, to this day, refuse to identify themselves or stop when requested to do so. Some even continued to interfere despite notice that a complaint was submitted to customer support with full activity logs. Third-parties, for example, have deleted entire profiles, manipulated several generations of a family, rewritten narratives with their personal unsolicited opinions, changed family relationships, edited dates and names, reposted what was already uploaded to boost their usernames to the top of the contribution list, attempted to take exclusive control of profiles, and blocked access by family.

Online abuse by third-parties took a serious turn on February 6, 2026 when a user with a history of interference began to impersonate Michael E. Byczek on familysearch.org. This user submitted text that stated “My name is Michael E. Byczek”. This same user had previously deleted entire profiles through merges that should not have been, among other acts. Anonymous is intended to include those who list a name without contact information to verify their identities. For example, a “John Smith” username without any further information is deemed anonymous.

On that day (February 6th), Michael E. Byczek announced on familysearch.org and ancestry.com that his identity had been used without his consent. He made a final request for third-parties to stop interfering with profiles of his direct blood ancestors. Within hours, a different third-party with a very long history of blatant interference once again deleted some of the new updates as if monitoring Michael E. Byczek’s online activity. Such behavior in the immediate aftermath of identity theft is a clear sign that genealogy websites have very serious design flaws that allow such conduct. These users flaunt customer support and ignore complaints filed against them. Most importantly, they refuse to cooperate or respond to messages.

Michael E. Byczek will decide, at his discretion after a case-by-case analysis, whether to submit a cease and desist notice. Any further attempt to use Michael E. Byczek’s identity may result in a police report or criminal investigation. The legal department of these genealogy companies will receive a formal request for IP addresses, email accounts, identifying information, and full activity logs. Michael E. Byczek will not hesitate to seek immediate user account deletion against anybody who attempts to intimidate his family for any reason.

Attached to this PDF is a proposed direct descendant administration framework, which third-parties have actually tried to delete, and how Michael E. Byczek has identified himself (representative sample screenshots). Also attached is a portion of his personal website that explains the risks associated with genealogy and steps taken to promote accurate family history.

The moment that online genealogy turned into identity theft against Michael E. Byczek, an attorney, is the day that all third-party interference and false claims, regardless of source, must immediately stop.

All genetic cousins are advised to very carefully review usernames and activity logs. Michael E. Byczek encourages all blood relatives to participate, contribute, and enjoy genealogy.

Questions can be sent directly to [michael@byczek.pro](mailto:michael@byczek.pro) or through moderated communication with customer support.

Visit <https://michaelbyczek.pro> for more information.

familysearch.org

William Rooney 1811-1885 GNY4-FBH

**Details**

**Name** • 20 Sources  
William Rooney  
Last Changed: December 23, 2024 M michaelbyczek

**Birth** • 10 Sources  
25 December 1811  
County Tipperary, Ireland  
Reason:  
Rooney family lived in Uarda. It appears that William was born on ...  
MORE  
Last Changed: January 4, 2025 M

**Death** • 4 Sources  
5 May 1885  
Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Reason:  
Gold Coast neighborhood  
Last Changed: January 4, 2025 M

**Other Information**

**Alternate Names**

**Events**

**Residence** • 0 Sources  
1835  
Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Chicago Early Settler  
Reason:  
William and Julia Rooney were prominent early settlers of Chicago. ...  
MORE  
Last Changed: December 22, 2024 M michaelbyczek

**Residence** • 0 Sources

**Details**

**Sex** • 16 Sources  
Male  
Last Changed: December 23, 2024 M michaelbyczek

**Christening** • 1 Source  
26 December 1811  
Gortnahoo, County Tipperary, Ireland  
Reason:  
Catholic Church in Gortnahaoe (also called Gortnahoo)  
Last Changed: January 4, 2025 M michaelbyczek

**SHOW QUALITY DETAILS**

**Possible Missing Child**  
There is a gap of 3 or more years between the birth of one child and the next sibling.  
SHOW ALL

**Search Records**

**Michael E. Byczek - Administrator**  
Michael E. Byczek is William Rooney's 3x-great-grandson [2x-great-grandson of Kittie (Rooney) Talbot]. Feel free to send a message (michael@byczek.pro) or visit <https://michaelbyczek.pro> for more information or to collaborate.  
Last Changed: March 2, 2025 M michaelbyczek

**EDIT**

**Notes (2)**

**Direct Descendant Administration**  
My name is Michael E. Byczek. I'm a licensed attorney from Chicago (Illinois - U.S.A.) with a background in computer engineering, Genealogy ...

**Michael E. Byczek - Administrator**  
Michael E. Byczek is William Rooney's 3x-great-grandson [2x-great-grandson of Kittie (Rooney) Talbot]. Feel free to send a message ...  
SHOW ALL

**William Rooney 1811-1885 GNY4-FBH**

**Direct Descendant Administration**

My name is Michael E. Byczek. I'm a licensed attorney from Chicago (Illinois - U.S.A.) with a background in computer engineering. Genealogy has been a passionate pursuit of mine since the age of twelve in 1992.

In the autumn of 2024, I was alerted to the rapid intensification of inaccurate genealogy being uploaded to various online platforms that originated from both relatives and third-parties. At the time, I proposed a direct-descendant administered framework for shared responsibility to monitor community-based Family Search profiles for accuracy:

1. Direct descendants serve as co-administrators of this profile using genealogy to build solidarity through kinship. I fully identified myself as the inaugural administrator, and look forward to virtually meeting other relatives who step forward as signatories of collaborative research.
2. Each descendant/administrator has an equal opportunity to upload their own research and analysis. Consensus should be the goal. When actual records don't exist to answer particular questions, analysis should focus on balance of probability that a narrative is more likely than not, and highly plausible, to be true. All are encouraged to make their own conclusions, but please do so respectfully.
3. Direct descendants must always take precedence over third-parties without exception. Third parties should not edit this profile, other than volunteer efforts to index and attach new records without interpretation or contradicting family viewpoints. The inherent risk of community-based platforms is that any user can interfere, edit, or delete entire profiles. Timestamp activity logs and usernames should be reviewed to monitor who is editing this profile and for what reason. I've personally experienced the stress and frustration of trying to stop inappropriate conduct of third parties who hide behind anonymous/fake usernames with an excuse that the deceased are public domain.
4. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is often unable to tell the difference between truth and fiction. There is a potential for fiction to become fact when inaccurate genealogy is used to train AI models.

I encourage all genetic cousins to join the initiative of working together, as a tribute to our common ancestry, to make sure that all genealogy on this profile is accurate and originates exclusively from direct blood descendants.

Last Changed: November 19, 2025 By MichaelByczek

EDIT Note Deleted

By MichaelByczek

**Other Information**

**Name** • 20 Sources William Rooney Last Changed: December 23, 2024

**Birth** • 10 Sources 25 December 1811 County Tipperary, Ireland Reason: Rooney family lived in Urard. It appears MORE Last Changed: January 4, 2025

**Death** • 4 Sources 5 May 1885 Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States Reason: Gold Coast neighborhood Last Changed: January 4, 2025

**Residence** • 0 Sources 1835 Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States Chicago Early Settler Reason: William and Julia Rooney were prominent MORE Last Changed: December 22, 2024

**Residence** • 0 Sources from 1835 to 1873 Cook, Illinois, United States William and Julia Rooney Farm Reason: William and Julia Rooney owned and operated a large farm in present... MORE

# Michael E. Byczek

## Detailed Genealogy and Historical Information

The Michael E. Byczek lineage in Chicago, IL is one of the oldest in the city's history dating back to 1835 with his 3x-great-grandparents William and Julia Rooney.

He and his parents have conducted extensive historical and genealogical research to preserve these family chronicles since the early 1990s. As an attorney, Michael E. Byczek advocates verified and accurate genealogy through moral-based analysis and ethical historical research. The Byczek family has published their genealogy online for almost 30 years.

Technology, artificial intelligence (AI), DNA tests, and online access to digitalization projects have eliminated the entry barriers to genealogy. However, as described in detail below, AI models are being trained using fake genealogy with inaccurate results. AI is often unable to tell the difference between what is true and false, doesn't understand context, and can't differentiate between reliability or credibility of sources. It is well-known in law and technology that anonymity is used to feed AI models with fake information to manipulate the truth. Another tactic is to freeload off genealogical research to boost anonymous/fake user profiles and masquerade as a credible source.

Subject matter expertise is a key attribute of data science and AI. Michael E. Byczek, as a technology-oriented attorney, advocates that genealogy should be the exclusive realm of direct blood descendants who verify and validate the historical record for accuracy.

View a ten-generation [interactive family tree](#) or a [tabular chart](#) showing the exact lineage for each ancestor.

Extensive genealogical and historical biographical documentaries were compiled in PDF format. These biographies are a definitive source of accurate genealogy written by a direct blood descendant. An HTML-based platform is under development with some archives currently available.

### Parents

- Michael M. Byczek ("Mick") and Betty A. Bykowski live in the Bridgeport neighborhood of Chicago. Their 51st wedding anniversary took place in September 2025. They were married at St. Helen's in the Ukrainian Village neighborhood in 1974. Mick was born in Bridgeport and Betty in the East Village neighborhood. Mick is an applied physics engineer and an honorably discharged Naval Air Reservist. Betty spent her professional career as an insurance underwriter. They briefly lived in Culver City, California where Mick worked on radar technology. They returned to Chicago and purchased their two-flat in Bridgeport in 1979. Their son Michael E. Byczek was born the following year. Visit [mickbyczek.com](#), [bettebyczek.com](#), and [mickandbetty.com](#).

### Grandparents

- Michael S. Byczek and Marie C. Flanagan - [72 Pages](#)
- Roman J. Bykowski and Antoinette A. Murzynowicz/Marynowski - [57 Pages](#)

### 1x-Great-Grandparents

- Martin Byczek and Maryanna Dudek - [86 Pages](#)
- Martin J. Flanagan and Marie T. Talbot - [70 Pages](#)

- Joseph Bykowski and Margaret Piotrowski - [74 Pages](#)
- Frank Murzyn/Marynowski and Rose Sidor - [76 Pages](#)

## 2x-Great-Grandparents

- Adalbert Byczek and Catherine Czarny - [11 Pages](#)
- Adalbert Dudek and Victoria Krol - [14 Pages](#)
- Patrick J. Flanagan and Anna Kane - [40 Pages](#)
- Edward H. Talbot and Katherine A. Rooney - [231 Pages](#)
- Lawrence Bykowski and Martha Januszewski - [21 Pages](#)
- Joseph Piotrowski and Victoria Nowakowski - [18 Pages](#)
- Peter Murzyn and Josephine Muracki - [36 Pages](#)
- Frank Sidor and Agnes Grysakiewicz - [24 Pages](#)

## 3x-Great-Grandparents

- Jacob Byczek and Catherine Dybas - [23 Pages](#)
- Paul Czarny and Marianna Paluch - [13 Pages](#)
- Gregory Dudek and Marianna Krol - [18 Pages](#)
- Martin Krul and Sophia Maziarka - [16 Pages](#)
- James Flanagan and Bridget Gaharn - [86 Pages](#)
- Patrick Kane and Bridget Rochford - [9 Pages](#)
- Thomas Talbot and Hannah McDonald/McDonnell - [109 Pages](#)
- William Rooney and Julia Phelan - [493 Pages](#)
- Stanley Bykowski and Anna Malek - [27 Pages](#)
- Frank Januszewski and Sophia Sawienski - [24 Pages](#)
- Ignatius Piotrowski and Marciana Zaparucha - [31 Pages](#)
- John Nowakowski and Catherine Kocinski - [10 Pages](#)
- Anthony Murzyn and Elizabeth Zawadzki - [29 Pages](#)
- John Muracki and Marcella Zaskiewicz - [14 Pages](#)
- Lawrence Sidor and Marianna Winikaytys - [20 Pages](#)
- Ambrose Grysakiewicz and Helena Staskiewicz - [16 Pages](#)

## 4x-Great-Grandparents

- Joachim Byczek and Lucy Kwiłosz - [7 Pages](#)
- Sebastian Dybas and Catherine Nowak - [16 Pages](#)
- Mathias Czarny and Marianna Watroba - [17 Pages](#)
- Adalbert Dudek and Apolonia Gil - [21 Pages](#)
- Mathias Krol and Thecla Lepa - [9 Pages](#)
- Simon Krul and Catherine Kaczka - [9 Pages](#)
- Valentine Maziarka and Clara Przybylo - [20 Pages](#)
- Patrick Flanagan and Catherine Casey - Included with [James Flanagan and Bridget Gaharn](#)
- John Gaharn and Bridget Munford - Included with [James Flanagan and Bridget Gaharn](#)
- John Talbot and Mary Bourke - [157 Pages](#)
- Hugh Rooney and Alice Dwyer - [97 Pages](#)
- Kasper Bykowski and Margaret Sprinc - [66 Pages](#)
- Adalbert Malek and Agnes Pawelkiewicz - [31 Pages](#)
- Stephen Januszewski and Marianna Kazalowski - [18 Pages](#)
- Vincent Sawienski and Margaret Zielinski - [22 Pages](#)
- Rocco Piotrowski and Agnes Surdinski - [27 Pages](#)
- Paul Zaparucha and Bridget Orlowski - [23 Pages](#)

- Vincent Nowakowski and Hedwig Mordel - [24 Pages](#)
- Valentine Kocinski and Elizabeth Lasocki - [15 Pages](#)
- Matthew Murzyn and Christina Stanialis - [12 Pages](#)
- Paul Zawadzki and Christina Leszczewski - [5 Pages](#)
- Joseph Muracki and Natasha Buchowiecki - [11 Pages](#)
- Stanley Zaskiewicz and Victoria Izbicki - [13 Pages](#)
- Dominick Sidor and Christina Pawlan - [12 Pages](#)
- John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk - [12 Pages](#)
- John Gryszkiewicz and Regina Niewula - [10 Pages](#)
- Andrew Staskiewicz and Regina Pojawis - [10 Pages](#)

### ***5x-Great-Grandparents***

- Philip Krol and Sophia Lacki - [23 Pages](#)
- John Maziarka and Eva Czarnawski - [13 Pages](#)
- Frank Przybylo and Barbara Bochenski - [13 Pages](#)
- James Talbot and Catherine Howard - [Included with John Talbot and Mary Bourke](#)
- Stanley Malek and Apolonia Kowal - [22 Pages](#)
- Anthony Sawienski and Maryanna Przybysz - [11 Pages](#)
- Adalbert and Catherine Zielinski - [12 Pages](#)
- Andrew and Marianna Piotrowski - [10 Pages](#)
- John Surdinski and Marianna Sieczkowski - [20 Pages](#)
- Thaddeus Zaparucha and Catherine Byczek - [18 Pages](#)
- Paul Orlowski and Ursula Dennicki - [10 Pages](#)
- John Nowakowski and Bridget Metlewicz - [18 Pages](#)
- Joseph Mordel and Margaret Mikolaj - [14 Pages](#)
- Benedict Kocinski and Agnes Kapelak - [15 Pages](#)
- Ignatius Lasocki and Catherine Gorzycki - [17 Pages](#)
- Adam Buchowiecki and Teresa Masiewicz - [12 Pages](#)
- Michael Zaskiewicz and Marianna Abramowicz - [10 Pages](#)
- Simon Izbicki and Marianna Czuprynski - [10 Pages](#)
- Martin Staskiewicz and Anna Milewski - [3 Pages](#)
- Simon Pojawis and Anna Wolyniec - [7 Pages](#)

### ***6x-Great-Grandparents***

- Adalbert Przybylo and Frances Mroczeck - [7 Pages](#)
- Frank and Rosalie Nowakowski - [9 Pages](#)
- Frank Mordel and Barbara Kosmider - [9 Pages](#)
- Luke Lasocki and Agnes Szucharski - [3 Pages](#)
- Casimir Gorzycki and Helen Kosieta - [9 Pages](#)

### ***Specialized Documentaries***

- Talbot and Howard Nobility Research - [2-page summary](#)
- World War I - Martin J. Flanagan - [35 Pages](#)
- World War II - Michael S. Byczek - [20 Pages](#)
- Chicago Directories (Rooney, Talbot, and Flanagan Families) - [242 Pages](#)
- Byczek and Dudek Lineage (Land Ownership Analysis in Subcarpathian Voivodeship of Poland) - [142 Pages](#)

## Large-scale HTML-based Online Archives

- [World War I - Martin J. Flanagan](#)
- [World War II - Michael S. Byczek](#)
- [Real Estate Analysis](#)

## Highlights of Genealogy Research

Michael E. Byczek is currently verifying documents through his 7x-great-grandparents. We all have:

2 parents  
 4 grandparents  
 8 great-grandparents  
 16 2x-great-grandparents  
 32 3x-great-grandparents  
 64 4x-great-grandparents  
 128 5x-great-grandparents  
 256 6x-great-grandparents  
 512 7x-great-grandparents

This represents a total of 1,023 individuals that span through 7x-great-grandparents. It further represents over 500 individual families and their children. Biographical documentaries have been completed for each grandparent through all 3x-great-grandparents with a majority of 4x-great-grandparents. Numerous documentaries for 5x and 6x-great-grandparents have also been compiled.

### *Rooney Research in Chicago, IL and Counties Tipperary and Kilkenny in Ireland*

Michael E. Byczek registered a federal copyright for a 362-page documentary of his 3x-great-grandparents William and Julia Rooney titled *The Biographies of William Rooney and Julia Phelan - Old Settlers of Chicago* ([TXu002469190](#)) in 2024. The 2nd Edition in 2025 consists of 493 pages with an additional 97 pages for Hugh Rooney and Alice Dwyer, whose biographies were included in the combined 1st Edition.

Michael M. Byczek registered an earlier copyright in 2012 ([TX0007522662](#)) titled "Michael M. Byczek Family Genealogy".

A 116-page collective documentary was compiled about William and Julia Rooney's daughter Kittie A. Rooney and her husband Edward H. Talbot (2x-great-grandparents).

### *Talbot Research in Chicago, IL; Taunton, MA; and County Tipperary in Ireland*

Extensive research was conducted into Edward H. Talbot's (2x-great-grandfather) business ventures as a Chicago real estate promoter with a 104-page comprehensive documentary.

Historical analysis of records from Co. Tipperary in Ireland has revealed the most likely Talbot lineage going back to Michael E. Byczek's 6x-great-grandparents. Research is taking place as to the possibility that Thomas Talbot (3x-great-grandfather) was a direct descendant of royal and nobility bloodlines.

### *Flanagan Research in Chicago, IL; Port Huron, MI; and Counties Mayo and Westmeath of Ireland*

Review of church records has identified Collinstown, Co. Westmeath in Ireland as the most likely origin of the Flanagan family prior to settling in Port Huron, MI (United States).

A 135-page collective documentary explains the Flanagan lineage in the United States and Ireland (Co. Mayo and Co. Westmeath).

### *Byczek Research in Chicago, IL and Subcarpathian Voivodeship of Poland*

Martin Byczek and Maryanna Dudek (great-grandparents) were both from the Subcarpathian Voivodeship of Poland.

### *Bykowski Research in Chicago, IL and Kuyavian-Pomeranian, Warmian-Masurian, and Greater Poland Voivodeships of Poland*

Roman J. Bykowski (grandfather) was born in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship of Poland. His lineage also includes the Warmian-Masurian and Greater Poland Voivodeships of Poland. The lineage of Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship dates back to a time when the area was part of Prussia.

### *Murzyn Research in Chicago, IL; Podlaskie Voivodeship of Poland; and Alytus County of Lithuania*

Frank Murzyn/Marynowski and Rose Sidor (great-grandparents) were both from the Podlaskie Voivodeship of Poland. Their lineage extends to both Poland and Lithuania.

### *Military Research*

Large-scale HTML-based archives were compiled for Martin J. Flanagan's (great-grandfather) service during World War I with the 23rd Engineers in France and Michael S. Byczek (grandfather) in World War II with the 81st Division Wildcats in the Pacific.

### *Chicago Research*

A 242-page documentary was compiled about the Rooney, Talbot, and Flanagan families in Chicago through their entries in the City Directories (1839-1928). An HTML-based collection of real estate documents is also available.

### **Online Genealogy Trees**

The decision to submit a DNA test in the autumn of 2024 was not for genealogy, but to intervene as an attorney.

His [ancestry.com profile](#) has the username "byczek" with a tree identified as *Michael E. Byczek Lineage*. The genealogy for this account is DNA-verified for as many generations back as genetic data was available for comparative analysis.

All genealogy and social media platforms pose a risk of cyber-bullying, intimidation, identity theft, fake images/documents (i.e. AI-generated), scams, "bait", social engineering, trolling, slander/libel, misinformation, and other inappropriate online user conduct. Numerous instances of inaccurate or deceptive genealogy were found. In the most egregious circumstances, steps were taken for immediate removal. Michael E. Byczek's name, identity, and/or research was used by third parties without permission or knowledge. He and his parents were directly named on genealogy websites in an offensive manner.

Substantial contributions were made to [familysearch.org](#) under the username "michaelbyczek". However, the Family Search platform is community-based where only one profile is allowed per deceased individual. This model allows anonymous third-parties to delete, edit, and modify accurate information (i.e. disruptive editing). Users are advised to carefully review information to verify and validate details, such as reviewing the timestamp activity log for usernames. At this time it was proposed that [direct descendants](#) assume shared responsibility for monitoring accuracy of these community-based genealogical profiles.

There is an antiquated view that the dead don't have rights. Legal advice about the digital afterlife and ways to protect the deceased are available at [byczeklaw.com/digital\\_afterlife.html](http://byczeklaw.com/digital_afterlife.html). A four minute video was uploaded to the Byczek Law YouTube Channel with username [@byczeklaw](https://www.youtube.com/@byczeklaw).

The proposed direct-descendant administered genealogy [framework](#) is a good solution to protect the rights of deceased common ancestors.

Each deceased individual has a unique profile on Family Search with an assigned identifier, such as:

Michael S. Byczek (GRRG-GMV) and Marie C. Flanagan (G5C8-1C2)

Roman J. Bykowski (GRG3-BXS) and Antoinette A. Murzynowicz/Marynowski (GRRG-XBB)

As an accurate source of data, a Pedigree Resource File (GEDCOM format) was uploaded to Family Search titled "Michael E. Byczek Lineage" (username of michaelbyczek) to show an outline of his direct-blood ancestors. This information cannot be modified by other users, but the content is displayed in accordance with Family Search parameters (i.e. not all details are publicly visible). The tree can be accessed by searching for the Submission ID: 2:2:2:MMKK-J2F under the option for user-submitted genealogies.

## Grave Memorials

The online platform [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) is dedicated to burial memorials with a model that is similar to Family Search. Only one memorial is allowed per deceased individual. However, the platform grants only one user with administrative control. As a result, this model is also susceptible to anonymous third-parties (i.e. cyber-squatting). Extensive efforts were taken to create over 100 memorials and gain family administration of nearly two dozen that were under third-party control.

His [Find a Grave profile](#) provides a link to all memorials under his administration.

## Military Memorials

The [fold3.com](http://fold3.com) platform is dedicated to military records with memorials for deceased veterans. Profiles were created for [Michael S. Byczek](#) (Grandfather - World War II) and [Martin J. Flanagan](#) (Great-grandfather - World War I).

## Observations

Michael E. Byczek, as an attorney, is who he says he is and means what he says he means. He is fiercely loyal to the direct bloodline (past, present, and future) and fully understands the intersection of law and technology as it relates to genealogy. It took an attorney with a professional background in computer engineering to find and implement a solution.

The Byczek family proudly honor their ancestral legacy through accurate and verified historical chronicles. Where uncertainty exists, such conclusions are based on balance of probabilities, whether it is more likely than not, and highly plausible to be true. The narratives are also evaluated with logic, reasonableness, and common sense in the context of reliable historical analysis.

Genealogy platforms have become AI-driven DNA-based spider webs that interweave content, true and fake, from any source into a centralized repository that links all direct descendants of a common ancestor without consent or knowledge. These sites have limited data science functionality. The [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) DNA test generated about 10,000 genetic cousins. It was virtually impossible to determine relationships due to lack of meaningful information to make an informed assessment, such as degree of kinship. An example of unreliable DNA test results is a distant Swedish origin in the lineage. Michael E. Byczek does not recognize the accuracy of this conclusion without more information. The Swedish "deluge" of the 17th century into Poland was a painful

historical event to the Polish identity. There is a possible bias in the AI-driven analysis that may mistakenly identify those of Polish descent as having trace amounts of Swedish DNA.

A series of facts and events must reconcile to be true. Mistaken identity and coincidences are common in genealogy. Just because records may exist with the same or similar names, does not mean these families are the same people. A perfect example is Adalbert Byczek and Catherine Czarny (2x-great-grandparents) from Osobnica in southeastern Poland near Jaslo. There were two families living in the same village, with the same names, including maiden, that were both married at the same church one year apart. Their children were born in Osobnica and members of both families later settled in Chicago. At first glance, documents from both Osobnica and Chicago would appear to refer to a single family. Acute attention to detail revealed that these were, in fact, two different families without any known blood relationship.

Michael E. Byczek and his parents did not regularly participate on the user-uploaded side of genealogy websites prior to the autumn of 2024. They did their own research posted to personal websites under their complete administrative control, and even declined to undergo DNA testing as it was not a suitable substitute for analysis of actual records. Suspicious activity was then detected that raised a concern such websites needed to be thoroughly reviewed.

It was shocking to discover the number of third parties and relatives who uploaded false genealogy. At the same time, the greatest accomplishments of particular ancestors were ignored. There are certain vital facts and events in a person's life that any such omission is an instant red flag. Likewise, there are documents that are so easy to find (transcription and/or digitized) that an absence would appear intentional. For instance, obituaries are one of the most important, easy to find, and go-to sources for genealogy. A large percentage of false claims were instantly refuted simply with obituaries. The Flanagan, Talbot, and Rooney lineages were particularly hard hit in ways that would never withstand scrutiny when compared against easy-to-find actual records.

Direct blood descendants must always take precedence over third parties without exception. Online genealogy can be viewed as the difference between authorized/official and unauthorized/unofficial biographies. Furthermore, just because a biography is authorized (direct blood) does not mean it's accurate. Emphasis must be placed on the risks of AI, which is often unable to tell the difference between fact and fiction. Genealogy sources are being used to train AI models and irreversible damage could take root. A legal perspective was important to protect family history. It would have been a breach of ethical responsibility for an attorney to ignore defamation against the deceased. Genealogy is about family, not an opportunity to rewrite history or test the limits of online free speech with pure fiction.

The only genealogy that is approved by Michael E. Byczek and his parents is the content on their own personal family websites, and what is verified to have originated from them on user-uploaded platforms. His father is Michael M. Byczek ("Mick"), mother is Betty A. (Bykowski) Byczek, and sister is Katherine S. Byczek ("Katie"). Messages may be sent to michael@byczek.pro for genealogy.

[Main Genealogy Page](#)

Michael E. Byczek | Chicago, Illinois | [Profile](#) | [Contact](#)

[Software Engineer](#) | [Attorney](#) | [Real Estate Broker](#)

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Michael S. Byczek > Memories > Cease and Desist Notice to Third Parties

## Cease and Desist Notice to Third Parties

Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States • 11 February 2026

**EDIT**

Date: February 11, 2026  
Subject: Cease and Desist Notification for Online Genealogy  
Author: Michael E. Byczek, Esq.  
Chicago, IL (U.S.A.)

To whom it may concern,

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Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney and software engineer, has spent nearly two years aggressively safeguarding the integrity and dignity of his direct blood ancestors in the digital afterlife. This includes all forms of misinformation and third-party interference on various online genealogy platforms, such as ancestry.com, familysearch.org, and findagrave.com.

As an attorney, Michael E. Byczek does not play games with anybody, especially when it comes to protecting his family (living and deceased). He advocates that only verified and fully identified direct blood descendants of common ancestors, or those in their immediate family (i.e. adoption), have the authority to upload genealogy to these websites.

Anonymous users consistently, to this day, refuse to identify themselves or stop when requested to do so. Some even continued to interfere despite notice that a complaint was submitted to customer support with full activity logs. Third-parties, for example, have deleted entire profiles, manipulated several generations of a family, rewritten narratives with their personal unsolicited opinions, changed family relationships, edited dates and names, reposted what was already uploaded to boost their usernames to the top of the contribution list, attempted to take exclusive control of profiles, and blocked access by family.

Online abuse by third-parties took a serious turn on February 6, 2026 when a user with a history of interference began to impersonate Michael E. Byczek on familysearch.org. This user submitted text that stated "My name is Michael E. Byczek". This same user had previously deleted entire profiles through merges that should not have been, among other acts. Anonymous is intended to include those who list a name without contact information to verify their identities. For example, a "John Smith" username without any further information is deemed anonymous.

On that day (February 6th), Michael E. Byczek announced on familysearch.org and ancestry.com that his identity had been used without his consent. He made a final request for third-parties to stop interfering with profiles of his direct blood ancestors. Within hours, a different third-party with a very long history of blatant interference once again deleted some of t<sup>+</sup> Tag People new updates as if monitoring Michael E. Byczek's online activity. Such behavior in the immediate aftermath of identity theft is a clear sign that genealogy websites have very serious design flaws that allow such conduct. These users flaunt customer

**Details**

Tagged People

- Michael S. Byczek 1917-1992 • GRRG-GMV
- Marie C. Flanagan 1923-1996 • GSC8-1C2
- Antoinette A. Murzynowicz 1912-2006 • GRRG-XBB
- Roman J. Bykowski 1908-1983 • GRG3-BXS
- Clara Przybylo 1804-1883 • PM91-7GX

**SHOW MORE**

**Details**

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney, has issued a cease and desist notice to third parties who interfere with online genealogy. His identity was used on February 6, 2026 by a third party to manipulate multiple profiles.

**LESS**

**Michael S. Byczek 1917-1992 GRRG-GMV**

**Vitals**

**Name** • 16 Sources  
Michael S. Byczek  
Reason: Middle name is Stanley  
Last Changed: March 3, 2025 M michaelbyczek

**Birth** • 15 Sources  
3 August 1917  
Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Reason: Byczek family living in Bridgeport  
Last Changed: January 3, 2025 M

**Death** • 4 Sources  
17 December 1992  
Oak Lawn, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Last Changed: December 23, 2024 M

**Other Information**

**Alternate Names**

**Events**

**Military Service** • 1 Source  
18 June 1942  
Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Last Changed: December 22, 2024 M michaelbyczek

**Residence** • 0 Sources  
from 1917 to 1992  
Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States  
Reason: Lifelong Chicagoan

**Research Help**

Quality Score: **High**  
[SHOW QUALITY DETAILS](#)  
There are no pending helps for this person.  
[SHOW ALL](#)

**Michael E. Byczek - Administrator**

Michael E. Byczek is Michael S. Byczek's grandson (son of Michael M. Byczek). Feel free to send a message (michael@byczek.pro) or visit <https://michaelbyczek.pro> for more information or to collaborate.

A cease and desist notice to third parties was uploaded on February 11, 2026 after his identity was used without his consent.

Last Changed: February 11, 2026 M michaelbyczek

[EDIT](#)

**Notes (2)**

**Direct Descendant Administration**  
My name is Michael E. Byczek. I'm a licensed attorney from Chicago (Illinois - U.S.A.) with a background in computer engineering. Genealogy ...

**Michael E. Byczek - Administrator**  
Michael E. Byczek is Michael S. Byczek's grandson (son of Michael M. Byczek). Feel free to send a message (michael@byczek.pro) or visit ...

Date: February 11, 2026  
Subject: Cease and Desist Notification for Online Genealogy  
Author: Michael E. Byczek, Esq.  
Chicago, IL (U.S.A.)

To whom it may concern,

All genealogy and social media platforms pose a risk of fraud, cyber-bullying, intimidation, identity theft, scams, "bait", fake images/documents (i.e. AI-generated), social engineering, trolling, slander/libel, and other inappropriate online user conduct.

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney and software engineer, has spent nearly two years aggressively safeguarding the integrity and dignity of his direct blood ancestors in the digital afterlife. This includes all forms of misinformation and third-party interference on various online genealogy platforms, such as ancestry.com, familysearch.org, and findagrave.com.

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Online abuse of third-parties began as a second-tier on February 6, 2026 when a user with a history of interference began to impersonate Michael E. Byczek on a familysearch.org. This user had a profile that stated "My name is Michael E. Byczek". This same user had previously deleted entire profiles through merges that should not have been, among other acts. Anonymous is intended to include those who list a name without contact information to verify their identities. For example, a "John Smith" username without any further information is deemed anonymous.

On that day (February 6th), Michael E. Byczek announced on familysearch.org and ancestry.com that his identity had been used without his consent. He made a final request for third-parties to stop interfering with profiles of his direct blood ancestors. Within hours, a different third-party with a very long history of blatant interference once again deleted some of the new updates as if monitoring Michael E. Byczek's online activity. Such behavior in the immediate aftermath of identity theft is a clear sign that genealogy websites have very serious design flaws that allow such conduct. These users flaunt customer support and ignore complaints filed against them. Most importantly, they refuse to cooperate or respond to messages.

Michael E. Byczek will decide, at his discretion after a case-by-case analysis, whether to submit a cease and desist notice. Any further attempt to use Michael E. Byczek's identity may result in a police report or criminal investigation. The legal department of these genealogy companies will receive a formal request for IP addresses, email accounts, identifying information, and full activity logs. Michael E. Byczek will not hesitate to seek immediate user account deletion against anybody who attempts to intimidate his family for any reason.

Attached to this PDF is a proposed direct descendant administration framework, which third-parties have actually tried to delete, and how Michael E. Byczek has identified himself (representative sample screenshots). Also attached is a portion of his personal website that explains the risks associated with genealogy and steps taken to promote accurate family history.

The moment that online genealogy turned into identity theft against Michael E. Byczek, an attorney, is the day that all third-party interference and false claims, regardless of source, must immediately stop.

All genetic cousins are advised to very carefully review usernames and activity logs. Michael E. Byczek encourages all blood relatives to participate, contribute, and enjoy genealogy.

Questions can be sent directly to michael@byczek.pro or through moderated communication with customer support.

**Cease and Desist Notice to Third Parties**

**11 Feb 2026**

**Chicago, Cook, Illinois, USA**

**Description**

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney, has issued a cease and desist notice to third parties who interfere with online genealogy. His identity was used on February 6, 2026 by a third party to manipulate multiple profiles.

**Hide full text**

**Michael E. Byczek** originally shared this on 11 Feb 2026

**Linked to**

Marie C. Flanagan

Michael S. Byczek

Roman J. Bykowski

Antoinette A. Murzynowicz

**Add person**

**Edit details**

findagrave.com

Find a Grave® MEMORIALS CEMETERIES FAMOUS CONTRIBUTE MICHAEL E BYCZEK



## Michael E Byczek

MEMBER FOR 10 years · 5 months · 10 days  
FIND A GRAVE ID 48832837  
HOME PAGE <https://michaelbyczek.pro>  
EMAIL michael@byczek.pro  
LAST ACTIVE This month

[EDIT PROFILE](#)

YOUR PROFILE MESSAGES

**Bio**  
Michael E. Byczek is descended from a prominent early settler family of Chicago, IL. He is an attorney and real estate broker with a background in computer engineering. Feel free to send a message (directly or through this platform) for genealogical information or collaboration.  
  
All direct descendants are invited to collaborate on a memorial through shared ancestry. Michael E. Byczek created over 100 memorials, arranged for sponsorships, and undertook extensive efforts to gain family control of nearly two dozen memorials.  
  
Other users have the ability to upload images to a memorial without review or notification to the administrator. As a result, Michael E. Byczek cannot guarantee the validity, authenticity, or appropriateness of content uploaded without his knowledge. A cease and desist notice for third-parties is available on the website below.  
  
Visit <https://michaelbyczek.pro> for more genealogy or send a direct message to michael@byczek.pro

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Memorials Managed	142	Memorial Sponsorships	24

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