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Attorneys at Law

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We Never Forget that
Behind Every Case, are
Real People

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Thomas N. Sweeney
Jenimae Almquist
Noelle L. Palazzo
Joanna B. Seidman
Anastasia M. Buccino-Roth

Of Counsel

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Andrew D. Swain
Richard Schwartz
Brian Kelly
Tom Margiotti

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Holiday Decorating Injuries Rise

Injuries involving falls from ladders while stringing lights, cuts from broken glass ornaments and other holiday decorating activities are on the rise, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

In addition to falls and cuts, CPSC issued a reminder about the dangers of Christmas trees which can erupt into flames in a matter of seconds if they come in contact with an open flame. There were about 240 home fires across the country each year between 2005 and 2009 that began with Christmas trees according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Here are a few additional tips for a safe holiday:

- Live trees should be fresh, with green needles that are hard to pull from the branches.
- Look for a "fire resistant" label on artificial trees.
- Purchase lights that have been tested for safety by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory, such as UL. Inspect all lights for any broken or cracked sockets or frayed wires.
- Never burn wrapping paper in the fireplace. It could cause a flash fire.

Messa & Associates has handled many slip and fall cases as well as burn, fire and explosion cases which have resulted in significant injuries and death. Our Philadelphia and New Jersey personal injury attorneys have obtained substantial verdicts and settlements in these matters including \$12.25 million, \$3.7 million and \$2.9 million awards for fire, burn and explosion cases. If you or a loved one has been seriously injured in a fall or a fire, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

Messa Gives Back For the Holiday Season

In addition to our giving all year long, the attorneys and staff at Messa & Associates, P.C. has teamed up with the Salvation Army in their Angel Tree program. Angel Tree provides gifts to children whose families need help making their holiday a little more special. This year, Messa & Associates adopted two families!

In addition to working with the Salvation Army, Messa & Associates also supports Tons of Turkeys, Toys for Tots, and Philabundance during the holiday season.

For more information on these and other organizations Messa & Associates supports, please visit our website at www.messalaw.com.

Messa & Associates, P.C.

123 S. 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 • 877-MessaLaw • 215-568-3500
2091 Springdale Road, Suite 2, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 • 856-810-9500
www.MessaLaw.com • MessaLaw.com/Blog • GHightower@MessaLaw.com

Happy Holidays to you and all of your loved ones from the attorneys and staff at Messa & Associates, P.C.!

WATCH Names Top Ten Dangerous Toys of 2011

World Against Toys Causing Harm Inc. (WATCH) has issued its annual list of the ten most dangerous toys. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, toy-related deaths rose slightly last year, with 17 children wrongful deaths from injuries caused by defective toys. In addition to death, recalled and defective can cause injuries to children such as strangulation, lacerations and falls resulting in emergency rooms visits and other forms of urgent care.

Here is the 2011 WATCH Most Dangerous Toys list and their potential hazards.

The Incredible Shrinky Dinks Maker Company by Big Time Toys, LLC

Potential hazard: Possible electric shock and burn injuries.

Sword Fighting Jack Sparrow by Jakks Pacific

Potential hazard: Possible eye and other bodily injuries.

'Gigan' Godzilla Figure by Bandai

Potential hazard: Possible puncture wounds.

Twist 'n Sort by Guidecraft Inc.

Potential hazard: Small parts cause a choking hazard.

Power Rangers Samurai Mega Blade by Bandai

Potential hazard: Blade can cause injuries.

Fold and Go Trampoline by The Original Toy

Potential hazard: Can cause injuries to people using it, including to the head and neck.

Pulling Animal Duck by Haba

Potential hazard: Potential for strangulation injuries.

School Bus by Schylling

Potential hazard: Choking hazard.

Z-Curve Bow by Zing Toys Inc.

Potential hazard: Danger to eyes.

Stepper "Low Rise Stilts by JJI Toys

Potential hazard: Head or other injuries from impact.

Philadelphia personal injury firm Messa & Associates is experienced in handling product liability cases involving injuries to children as a result of products with manufacturing and design defects. In addition to their research and knowledge, our attorneys work with highly regarded experts to prepare every case. If your child has been suffered serious injuries or death due to a defective toy or other product, please contact us at **1-877-MessaLaw** or visit us at **www.messalaw.com**.

Recent Settlements and Verdicts

Confidential

\$375,000 for a Montgomery County school bus driver who tripped and fell while attempting to cross the street because of a concealed hazard. The fall resulted in multiple ruptured tendons and multiple surgeries. The woman has developed multiple restricting conditions which continue to impact her daily life.

*"We know you want and *deserve* the best when it comes to representation. At Messa & Associates, we strive for nothing short of perfection."*

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Trial Attorneys

For more information, please call 877-MessaLaw or email GHightower@MessaLaw.com