



**MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
Attorneys at Law

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**We Never Forget that  
Behind Every Case,  
are Real People**

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## MATTERS OF THE HEART

Although severe symptoms are hard to ignore, heart attacks can be undiagnosed. Too often, people die from undiagnosed heart attacks, or from delayed emergency treatment. The chances of recovering are far greater when patients are treated in the early stages of a heart attack. Common misdiagnoses include heartburn, or other less severe causes of chest pain.

Typically, people having a heart attack will experience some chest pain—varying in degree of severity. Chest pain may be accompanied by extreme sweating, shortness of breath, fatigue, chills, nausea and vomiting, anxiety, paleness, or cyanosis, a bluish discoloration of the lips, feet and hands. If you experience these or other symptoms in the chest, seek medical attention right away. Ask for an EKG, blood test or some other diagnostic test. Do not leave the hospital if you are still experiencing pain, or feel you have not received proper medical treatment.

Messa & Associates has represented many families in cases involving cardiac errors. Our attorneys have obtained substantial settlements in these matters, including \$1 million in the case of a man who died following an emergency rooms' failure to diagnose a cardiac arrhythmia and \$700,000 for failure to diagnose a heart attack where the patient was discharged from the hospital without an EKG or blood test which likely will have revealed the heart attack. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury or death as a result of the misdiagnosis of a heart condition, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw to discuss your case.

### RECENT SETTLEMENTS AND VERDICTS

**\$2.154 Million** unanimous jury verdict for the family of Hyseem Jacobs against Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and attending ob/gyn Peter Chen, M.D. at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

The jury found that the defendants were negligent in failing to timely perform a Cesarean section delivery of the baby before brain injury occurred. The child sustained a 15 to 20 minute period of severe oxygen deprivation just before delivery, secondary to placental abruption, while under the care of Dr. Chen and HUP. As a result of the brain damage, Hyseem Jacobs was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, and was severely disabled. He died as a result of complications of cerebral palsy at 17 months old. Richard J. Heleniak served as counsel for the family.

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MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
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## Baby Monitors Linked to Two Infant Deaths

Summer Infant, Inc. is recalling 1.7 million video baby monitors. The monitors have been linked to the strangulation deaths of two infants. More than 40 different models of handheld, digital and color monitors were sold at major retailers nationwide between 2003 and 2011.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission says the electrical cords on the monitors can be dangerous for babies if placed too close to their cribs. According to the commission, a 10-month-old girl and a 6-month-old boy died when they strangled on the cord of a Summer Infant monitor. Another child, a 20-month-old boy, was found in his crib with the camera cord wrapped around his neck but was discovered before suffering serious injury.

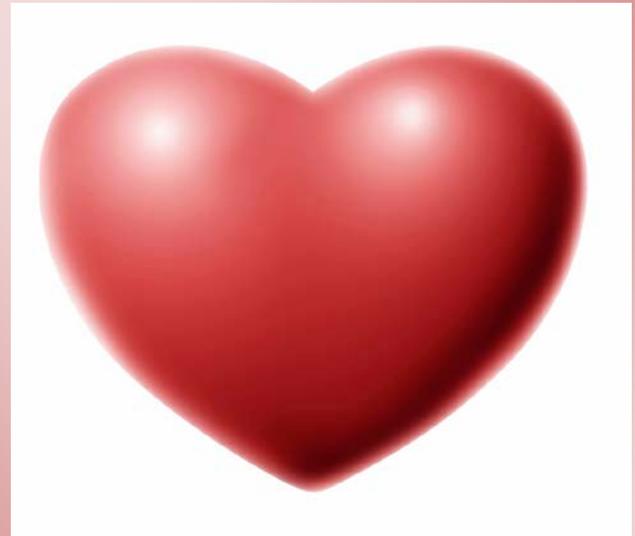
In addition to the recall linked to strangulations, Summer Infant also is recalling the rechargeable batteries in another 58,000 video monitors exclusively sold at Babies R Us in 2009 and 2010. The batteries sold with certain Slim and Secure Video Monitors can overheat, rupture and possibly burn people. The company has received five reports of ruptured batteries, including three cases of property damage.

The attorneys at Messa & Associates have pursued many cases involving injuries to children as a result of products with manufacturing and design defects. We combine our years of experience, thorough research, and the knowledge of highly regarded experts to prepare these cases. If you or a loved one has been seriously injured by a Summer Infant monitor, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw.

### HEART HEALTHY HABITS

1. INCREASE THE FIBER IN YOUR DIET. OPT FOR WHOLE GRAINS, SUCH AS BROWN RICE AND WHOLE-WHEAT PASTA, TO BOOST YOUR INTAKE OF TOTAL FIBER.
2. GET AT LEAST 30 MINUTES OF MODERATE EXERCISE DAILY.
3. CHOOSE FISH RICH IN OMEGA-3 FATS OVER RED MEAT, OR TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT FISH-OIL SUPPLEMENTS.
4. CUT BACK ON SALT AND FOODS CONTAINING PARTIALLY HYDROGENATED VEGETABLE OILS.
5. LAUGH...STUDIES SHOW IT'S GREAT FOR THE HEART!

### February is American Heart Month



Happy Valentine's Day from  
Messa & Associates, P.C.

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