



MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
TRIAL ATTORNEYS

We Never Forget that
Behind Every Case, are
Real People

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Jenimae Almquist
Noelle L. Palazzo
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Of Counsel

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Brian Kelly
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MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Trial Attorneys

ATTORNEY JENIMAE ALMQUIST JOINS MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.



Messa and Associates, P.C. is pleased to announce the addition of Jenimae Almquist, Esquire to the firm. She will join the firm and continue her practice in complex personal injury litigation representing victims of catastrophic accidents, explosions, medical malpractice and pharmaceutical products liability, as well as burn victims and individuals who have been harmed by defective products.

Ms. Almquist received her juris doctorate, *magna cum laude*, at Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law, where she received the Barrister Award for excellence in trial advocacy as well as multiple transcript distinctions for outstanding writing and oral advocacy. She received her undergraduate degree, *magna cum laude*, at Bryn Mawr College. Ms. Almquist is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and before the United States Federal Court of Claims.

Ms. Almquist was honored as one of forty Pennsylvania "Lawyers on the Fast Track" by *Pennsylvania Law Weekly* and the *Legal Intelligencer* for her public service, prior experience and ability to handle multi-party lawsuits. She is a current board member and past Secretary of the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, and engages in pro bono service for Spanish-speaking clients through the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program (VIP). Additionally, she currently co-chairs a civics initiative involving volunteer lawyers and judges who teach high school students basic concepts of citizenship and dispute resolution on a monthly basis in Philadelphia public high schools, (the Advancing Civics Education ("ACE") Program of the Philadelphia Bar Association). Ms. Almquist is also an active member of the Philadelphia Bar Association (formerly on the Board of Governors), the Minority Law Day Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Pennsylvania Association for Justice, and Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association. As part of the Green Ribbon Subcommittee of the Philadelphia Bar Association, Ms. Almquist also helps encourage sustainable practices in area law firms.

**JOSEPH L. MESSA, JR. SELECTED AS AWESOME ATTORNEY
BY SUBURBAN LIFE MAGAZINE READERS**

The readers of Suburban Life magazine have named **Joseph L. Messa, Jr.** as an *Awesome Attorney* in **Medical Malpractice** law for the second consecutive year. The list features lawyers practicing in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties and is compiled based on a poll of its readers.

Mr. Messa thanks Suburban Life magazine and their readers for selecting him as a **Readers' Choice Awesome Attorney** for 2011!

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

Injuries, Deaths Caused by Toys Still Cause for Concern

As the holiday season begins, toy purchases will rise which could increase safety risks among families with small children. According to a report issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission this week, toy-related deaths of kids younger than 15 increased last year and injuries were still “alarmingly high.”

For the 2011 fiscal year— which ended on Sept. 30— there were 34 toy recalls and seventeen toy-related child fatalities up from 12 in 2010. Almost half were from choking on common balloons and balls toy products which can be hard to regulate because they are so widely produced.

The report also shows nearly 252,000 kids younger than 15 were treated in emergency rooms due to toy-related injuries last year. That number has remained constant in the last few years. Scooters that aren't motorized continued to be the category with the most injuries.

Under new mandatory requirements, toymakers will need to have an independent lab certify that their products meet new standards, including for lead content, lead paint and small parts, by Jan. 1.

The CPSC reported last week that 11 children since 2009 have required surgery after swallowing the tiny ball magnets from a popular office desk toy sold under brand names including Buckyballs and Nanospheres. In addition to the magnets, button-sized batteries commonly found in electronics have posed a safety hazard to children. Safety advocacy group Safe Kids USA says the number of injuries and deaths associated with those types of batteries has quadrupled in five years because the battery can easily lodge in a child's throat and burn through the esophagus in as little as two hours.

Messa & Associates is experienced in handling 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 seriously injured by a defective product, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com to discuss your case.

Recent Verdicts and Settlements

Hines v. ABC Store

\$675,000 settlement for a Philadelphia County man who sustained physical and psychological injuries as a result of being shot while working at a retail store.

The store failed to provide adequate security despite the fact that the attack was foreseeable due to prior threats made by the man's assailant.

Messa News...

Messa & Associates has launched a new Spanish language website! The website, www.messalaw.com/es, is designed to help us meet the needs of our Spanish-speaking clients. Our attorneys have handled many cases on behalf of Spanish-speaking clients and have helped them to successfully obtain fair verdicts and settlements in their personal injury matters.

Visit www.messalaw.com/es for more information or call us at 1-877-MessaLaw to speak with one of our Spanish-speaking attorneys or staff members about your case.

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



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