



We Never Forget that Behind Every Case, are Real People

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THE LEGAL OUTLOOK

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60 Riders have been Killed in Rhino Accidents

Summer is here and that means off-road riding is in high season in many communities.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 60 riders have been killed in Rhino accidents and more than 440 wrongful death and personal injury lawsuits are pending, while Yamaha has settled others.

Many stem from rollovers in which drivers or passengers fell or were flung through the open door space to the ground, then smashed by the 1,100 pound vehicle.

Adults and children, as young as 3 years-old, have suffered serious injuries, including amputated limbs and crushed

legs, arms and heads.

In March 2009, a free vehicle repair and helmet giveaway was offered to all owners of Rhino model 450, 660, 700 recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs), in order to enhance stability and reduce the potential for rollover, as well as improve occupant protection.

In order to provide a safer ride, all Rhinos must have half-doors, additional passenger handholds, spacers on the rear wheels and the rear anti-sway bar removed.

Consumers should immediately stop using Rhino ROVs until the repairs are installed by a dealer.



Rhino Model 450

For more information please contact one of our personal injury attorneys at 1-877-MESSALAW.

Preparing to Meet with Your Personal Injury Attorney

If you have been injured in an accident it is important to see an attorney to discuss your possible claim. Before you see your attorney, gather documents and other information you have regarding the incident. You may have different types of information depending on your situation, but general information and documentation related to your injury may include:

- Name and address of the ambulance company
- Name and address of the hospital you were taken to
- The dates of the incident that caused your injury
- Names and the addresses of the doctors that examined you
- A copy of your insurance report
- Name and contact information for your insurance company
- Any other documentation, including hospitalization
- Health insurance documents

PHILADELPHIA STYLE



Owner Joe Messa and Client Relations Coordinator, Jessica Neff attended Philly Style's 10th Anniversary party in July 16, 2009.

Messa & Associates, P.C.



Messa & Associates, P.C., handles all types of cases including routine motor vehicle cases. Within the last month, our firm secured the full amount of insurance coverage for two separate rear-ended collision cases, settling at \$47,500 and \$40,000.

In addition to obtaining the full insurance coverage, Messa & Associates, P.C., attained an arbitration award in the amount of \$50,000, which is the maximum allowed at the arbitration level.

Check out our Blog!

www.MessaandAssociates.blogspot.com

FDA Recommends Ban On Painkillers

An FDA advisory panel recommended banning Vicodin and Percocet because they contain acetaminophen, which can cause liver damage if taken at the higher-than-recommended doses.

"Acetaminophen poisoning has become the most common cause of acute liver failure in the United States," reports a recent study in *Hepatology*, the official journal of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.



Vicodin and Percocet were recommended for a ban because some research has showed greater evidence of drug injury and liver damage with these medications. It could be because many patients take painkillers over the long-term, while also taking other medicines that contain acetaminophen, such as NyQuil and Theraflu, without realizing.

If the FDA bans Vicodin and Percocet, doctors may need to explore other ways to manage patients' pain .

As a consumer, you have the right to assume that products you purchase or use have been produced in a manner that will ensure that they are safe and free from unreasonable risks. If a company manufactures or sells a product that is hazardous to the user, the company must be held liable for any injuries or fatalities that occurred due to the faulty product.

For regular users of acetaminophen, the ingredient in Tylenol and many cold medications, the news was troubling. Should we all toss acetaminophen from our medicine cabinets?

The answer is *no*. When used as directed, the drug is harmless. But acetaminophen is now in so many products that it is relatively easy to take more than the recommended daily limit, now four grams.

In a study, about 50% of liver failure cases related to acetaminophen poisoning were unintentional, while the other half resulted from attempted suicide.