

THE LEGAL OUTLOOK

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It's Motorcycle Season: Time to Take Some Precautions

With Spring officially here, and the warm weather rapidly approaching, it is that time to start looking out for motorcycles. Unfortunately, Pennsylvania and New Jersey motorcyclists are prone to serious injuries any time they are involved in a motor vehicle crash. According to the 2008 NHTSA Motorcycle Statistics, 103,000 motorcyclists were injured in the United States and 5,154 resulted in death.

Motorcycle riders only have their safety gear to protect them from the impact of colliding with a car, a truck, a bus, or a fixed object, such as a wall, a tree, or a concrete barrier. Serious injuries in a motorcycle crash can include severed limbs, crushed bones, internal injuries, spinal cord injuries, and traumatic brain injuries. The effects of an accident that occurs when riding a motorcycle are of the kind that can leave the rider with injuries that will affect them for the rest of their lives.

It is common knowledge among those who regularly ride motorcycles that many drivers on the road are less observant and less respectful of motorcycles than cars or trucks. Motorcycle riders are quite simply at a much greater risk of serious accident and injury when on the road than those using other means of transportation.

If you or a loved one is injured in a motorcycle accident you can find a quality of life again. Medical bills for treating a motorcyclist's injuries can be very costly, and you may need multiple surgeries and rehabilitation therapy in order to recover. Taking time off from work could result in lost wages and even loss of opportunities for advancement or promotion. An experienced motorcycle accident lawyer with a successful track record of dealing with insurance companies, motorcycle and helmet manufacturers in defective product cases, and transportation law can help. You don't have to resign yourself to the meager compensation offered by an insurance company that fails to recognize the extent of injuries or the necessary recovery costs.



Joseph L. Messa, Jr., of Messa and Associates, has been a motorcycle enthusiast for years. Unfortunately, a few years ago he was involved in a motorcycle accident resulting in severe injury, and takes these cases very seriously. If you are looking to consult a firm and attorney who understands the unique aspects of motorcycle accidents and the challenges faced by victims and their families, please contact Messa and Associates.

Product Recalls

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced a voluntary recall of the following items: Bonavita and Babi Italia Drop Side Cribs, Blair Women's Chenille Robes, and certain children's lounge-wear garments (pictured below).

CPSC and Blair announced the recall for the robes after Blair learned of three robes catching on fire, including one report of second-degree burns. Blair was subsequently made aware of the fatalities after the recall was announced and after Blair had sent letters of the recall to consumers who purchased the robes. Since the recall was originally announced in April 2009, Blair has received reports of six deaths due to the robes catching on fire. Five of the six victims were female, and all five were cooking at the time of the incidents. Three of the victims were in their 80s.

CPSC and LaJobi have received a total of 33 reports of drop side detachment on the drop side cribs due to spring pin failure. In these reports, two children became entrapped and one child fell from cribs. Both entrapped children were freed by caregivers, one child was bruised. The lower spring pins on the footboard and head-

board can pop out of the tracks located on the drop side causing the drop side to detach from the crib. When the drop side detaches, it creates a hazardous gap between the drop side and the crib mattress in which infants and toddlers can become entrapped and suffocate or fall from cribs.

The lounge-wear garments mentioned above fail to meet children's sleepwear federal flammability standards which require sleepwear, including lounge-wear, to be either snug-fitting or flame resistant.

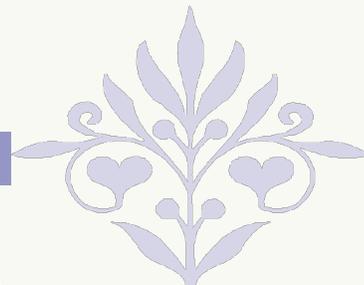
For more information on these and other product recalls, please visit Messalaw.com.

If you or someone you know has been involved in an injury involving household products, please contact Messa and Associates at 877.Messalaw.



Recent Settlements

Confidential \$500,000 settlement for failure to diagnose and treat TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack) or "mini-stroke" which resulted in plaintiff having an actual stroke. Six days prior to her stroke, she complained of numbness and weakness in her hands, trouble thinking, and difficulty writing. Doctors diagnosed her with carpal tunnel. She went on to have a stroke affecting her right side, requiring therapy. Fortunately, plaintiff made a reasonably good recovery.



Messa & Associates-Super Lawyers

We are pleased to announce that Joseph L. Messa, Jr. and Richard J. Heleniak have been chosen as *2009 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*. Both have also received AV-rating's by Martindale-Hubbell, and are members of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, which only admits those attorneys who have achieved verdicts and settlements in excess of \$1 million. For more information, please visit Messalaw.com and click on the *Super Lawyers* logo on the home page.

*For more information please contact Messa & Associates, P.C. toll free at 1.877.MessaLaw or visit www.Messalaw.com