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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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Trial Attorneys

MESSA & ASSOCIATES WELCOMES CHRISTINE GIORDANO



This month, Messa & Associates welcomed a new member to their staff—Christine Giordano, B.S.N., J.D. Her extensive medical malpractice and catastrophic injury litigation experience combined with a degree and practical experience in nursing, make her a valuable addition to our team.

Ms. Giordano graduated from Villanova University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1983. Then, in 1989, she earned her J.D. from Widener University, School of Law. Ms. Giordano's credentials include working for 10 years as a nurse, 12 years as lead trial counsel defending medical malpractice cases to verdict and eight years as a trial lawyer for a Philadelphia plaintiffs malpractice firm.

Ms. Giordano is licensed to practice in the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. She's a current member of the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association and Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations.



Toyota and Honda Recalls

Toyota recalled 1.53 million Avalon, Lexus and other car models across the U.S. and Japan. The recall is a result of problems with the cars' fuel pumps and brake fluids. The company has already

recalled over 10 million cars in the past year. Most cars have glitches in the brake master cylinder. The problem could mean weaker braking power. The specific models are the 2006 Lexus GS300, IS250, and IS350, 2004 through 2006 Lexus RX330 and non-hybrid Highlander and the 2005 through 2006 Avalon.

Honda Motor Co. announced they are recalling vehicles due to brake fluid leaks, which can lead to weaker braking power. Some brake fluid types negatively affect the brake's master cylinder seal. About 500,000 vehicles are being recalled. The affected cars are 2005-2007 Acura RL sedans and 2005-2007 Odyssey minivans.

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Recent Settlement

\$885,000 settlement for a trucking accident, which resulted in multiple serious injuries. The plaintiff was driving on the New Jersey Turnpike at night, during a rainstorm and decided to pull onto the shoulder until the storm let up.

Unbeknownst to her, one of the defendants had pulled his tractor-trailer onto the shoulder to sleep. He left his parking lights illuminated, but did not use his flashers, flares, reflectors, triangles, or any other means to signal his presence to other motorists. As the plaintiff pulled onto the shoulder, she could not see the truck in the rain, crashed into the rear of the parked vehicle, and became stuck underneath.

After feeling the impact, the truck driver awoke and pulled back out onto the Turnpike. Meanwhile, the second defendant stopped his tractor-trailer truck in the lane of travel to tell the other defendant a car was stuck underneath his trailer. The second truck's tire impacted the car, causing the plaintiff's vehicle to dislodge. She was trapped in the smashed car, manually extricated with the Jaws of Life, and rushed to the hospital. The plaintiff underwent surgery to repair a leg fracture by implanting a rod and suffered a closed head injury. She has undergone treatments but suffered leg infections and lasting neurological injury.

Artimplant Artelon Spacers Painful Side Effects



The Artimplant Artelon Spacer is a medical device used for people with thumb disabilities. The product is produced by Artimplant AB and distributed by Small Bone Innovations. Neither company offers consumers a warning about the multiple reports of painful side effects and other negative, sometimes, severe reactions.

Artimplant Artelon Spacers are surgically implanted into a person's hand with the intent to relieve arthritis, but keep pinch strength intact. The device itself is made of a mixture of biodegradable and non biodegradable materials. The biodegradable part works as "scaffolding" in the patient's hand. It takes at least six years for the material to completely degrade. Meanwhile, tissue is supposed to regenerate in the hand.

However, as is well known among medical professionals, when a foreign object is placed in the body, the body can reject it and react badly to the implanted device. Many patients have reported serious reactions including loss of motion, swelling, and inflammatory synovitis leading to incredible pain. The Artelon Spacer can also break in the body. Occasionally, under stress, it has fragmented leaving tiny pieces in the hand, causing terrible pain.

The companies behind the Artelon Spacer did minimal investigation and research into the materials used in the device. In fact, there was just one pilot study, which evaluated only 10 patients. The study itself was biased, as it was funded by the industry.

Those with an Artelon Spacer implanted in their hands that has led to negative reactions do have legal rights they can discuss with an attorney. The lawyers at Messa & Associates, P.C. are willing and able to help those who have suffered because of an Artelon Spacer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT MESSALAW.COM/BLOG

"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 TLumbis@MessaLaw.com