



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

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MEET OUR STAFF: NOELLE L. PALAZZO

Noelle Palazzo has shown drive and promise from the very start of her career. A born and raised South Philadelphian, Ms. Palazzo graduated cum laude from Widener University School of Law in 2005. Upon graduation, she received the Most Promising Civil Litigator and Outstanding Student Service Commencement Awards.



During the first two years of her legal career, Ms Palazzo worked as an associate at a national civil defense litigation firm. She quickly realized her passion was for fighting and advocating on behalf of the ‘people’ rather than insurance companies and large corporations. She joined Messa & Associates, P.C. in 2007 and now focuses her practice on the representation of injured plaintiffs and their families.

“Our clients come to us during very difficult times in their lives and while we work hard to see that they are compensated for their injuries, there’s much more to our job than that. It’s about compassion and helping our clients get back on their feet and helping them realize they can take back control of their lives no matter what they’ve been through,” said Palazzo. For more information, please **MessaLaw.com**.

RECENT SETTLEMENTS AND VERDICTS

\$400,000 settlement for the failure to diagnose endometrial cancer. The plaintiff experienced persistent, irregular and abnormal vaginal bleeding between 1998 and 2004. The troubling signs and symptoms were ignored by her OB-GYN and staff. The staff failed to render that her symptoms might be a sign of cancer.

At the age of 46, in 2004, she discussed her symptoms with her primary care physician who immediately ordered a pelvic ultrasound. She was then diagnosed with Stage III endometrial cancer, which had spread to her lymph nodes. Because of the cancer's advanced stage, she had to undergo chemotherapy and radiation therapy after surgery. Due to the OB-GYN's failure to diagnose the patient properly, her cancer was not treated until it reached a more advanced stage.

She has, thankfully, been cancer free for six years and her risk of reoccurrence is greatly diminished.



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TYGACIL, AN INTRAVENOUS ANTIBACTERIAL, POSES HIGHER MORTALITY RISK

The FDA informed healthcare professionals that the intravenous antibacterial Tygacil (tigecycline) poses a higher mortality risk compared to other drugs used to treat serious infections in a similar manner.

The increased risk was found when clinical trials were analyzed. The exact cause of the deaths was often uncertain, though it was believed to be due to the severe infections worsening. The higher risk of death was most evident, but not limited to, patients treated for pneumonia acquired in the hospital. Other incidents of increased risk include patients treated for skin, diabetic foot and intra-abdominal infections.

Tygacil is approved by the FDA for treating community acquired pneumonia, skin structure and complicated skin infections and complicated intra-abdominal infections. However, it is not FDA approved for treating diabetic foot infection or hospital-acquired pneumonia.

The FDA notified healthcare professionals of these high risks through a "Dear Health Care Professional letter." They also updated the Adverse Reactions and Warnings and Precautions sections on the Tygacil label.

SLOW COOKERS, SOLD AT KOHL'S DEPARTMENT STORE, RECALLED

Bella Kitchen's five quart programmable slow cookers have been recalled. The slow cookers were sold exclusively at Kohl's Department Store with the model number WJ-5000DE and either date code 0907 or 0909.

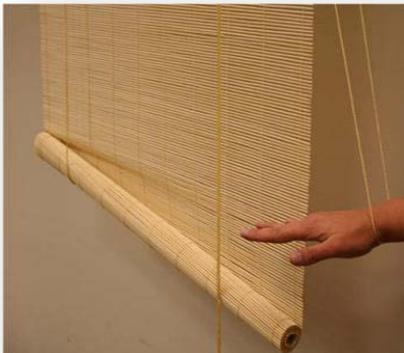
The devices are black with "Bella Kitchen" on the control panel and the model number and date code on a label underneath the slow cooker.



The panel of the slow cooker can overheat and melt, which creates a risk of fire. There have been 60 reports of the device melting, smoking or sparking and three reported incidents of the device catching fire. To date, there has been damage to countertops but no reported injuries.

Kohl's Department store sold the slow cookers, distributed by Sensio Inc., between July and December 2009 for \$20 to \$40. If you have this product, immediately unplug and stop using it. Contact Sensio for a refund.

For more information, visit MessaLaw.com/Blog



JO-ANN FABRIC RECALLS ROLL UP BLINDS

In December 2009, craft stores began voluntarily recalling roman shades and roll up blinds. Jo-Ann Fabric announced they are joining the other stores in the recall.

The recalled product is Bamboo Roll-up Blinds with Valance. The blinds could potentially strangle a child. The lifting loop can detach from the side of the blind allowing a child's neck to become entangled.

The blinds, 36"x72" and 48"x72", were sold at Jo-Ann Fabric and other craft stores across the country for \$25 and \$30 respectively. They were available between April and December 2009.

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