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TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Head injuries are not like injuries to other parts of the body. A blow to the head can cause severe damage that can affect all aspects of the mind—from the five senses to the ability to reason, from sleep patterns to personality.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is caused when the head suffers a sudden trauma. TBI can be caused by a car accident, fall, bullet, sports injury, or explosive shock. The extent of damage can range from mild to severe, depending on the specifics of the injury.

A victim of TBI may or may not lose consciousness, but will experience some of the following symptoms: *headache, confusion, dizziness, blurred vision, lightheadedness, bad taste in the mouth, ringing in the ears, fatigue, mood changes, trouble with memory, trouble sleeping, inability to concentrate, or struggles with thinking and paying attention.* More severe cases include symptoms such as *a headache that gets progressively worse, repeated vomiting and nausea, convulsions, seizures, dilation of the pupils, slurred speech, loss of coordination, confusion, agitation, restlessness, numbness of the extremities, loss of consciousness, and inability to awaken from sleep.*

Medical attention should always be sought immediately any time a head injury occurs, even if you initially “feel OK” after a blow to the head. TBI can lead to permanent brain and nerve damage.

If you suffer a TBI injury due to an auto accident, assault, or a workplace mishap, or have symptoms overlooked by a medical practitioner, call us for help in protecting your rights.



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PERSONAL INJURY PRACTICE

- Free consultation
- Home or hospital appointments available
- No recovery, no fee. We do not get paid unless you do.
- Trial attorney
- Licensed in Georgia and Florida

Jason Schultz has published another book



Wolf in Sheep's Clothing (What your insurance company doesn't want you to know about until it's too late) walks you through just about every type of consumer insurance policy and teaches you how to buy and make claims under those policies. From life, to auto, to disability (and “beyond,” as Buzz Lightyear would say), this book is the definitive consumer guide.

We've got **FREE** copies to the first 10 Georgia residents who email Ann Caver a_caver@earthlink.net with the answer to this question: *What sport does Jason coach?* (Hint: All three of his children play, and it involves a round ball that bounces.)

READ THIS and smile!

A minister told his congregation, “Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17.”

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He asked how many read Mark 17. Nearly every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, “Since Mark only has 16 chapters, I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying.”

REFERRALS

We want you to think of us as your law firm.

If you have legal matters that need attention, please let us know. If we cannot handle the matter, we will refer you to a firm that can.

Please feel free to refer us to your family, friends, and neighbors for their legal needs. We welcome the opportunity to help.

CALL US. YOU'RE GOING TO FEEL A WHOLE LOT BETTER ABOUT THINGS.



Think twice before running that red light

More and more often, red light cameras are being installed at intersections to improve safety by catching light runners.

Most of these setups include multiple cameras positioned to take pictures of vehicles traveling in any direction. When a vehicle passes a certain point on the road, it sets off a trigger that tells one of the cameras to snap two pictures. The first photo shows the vehicle on the edge of the intersection; the second shows it in the middle. Most of these cameras are digital and send their photos to a computer. Some systems include a camera installed at an angle to capture a photo of the driver's face. The owner of the light-running vehicle can expect to receive a ticket in the mail in a few weeks.

The hope is that these cameras will help to cut down on the accidents caused by drivers running red lights. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, these accidents account for 22 percent of all traffic accidents in the United States. It is estimated that these accidents kill 800 people and cause \$7 billion in property damage, medical bills, lost productivity, and insurance hikes every year.

If you find yourself at an intersection thinking about saving some time by running a red light, remember...you may be on camera.

If you received a citation in the mail for running a red light, call us. We may be able to help.

MEET LADY JUSTICE

You may not know her name, but you've surely seen Lady Justice around. She's tall, made of stone, and wears a blindfold. She carries a scale in one hand and a double-edged sword in the other. Lady Justice is a common sight outside courthouses throughout America as well as Europe. So, what's her story?

Lady Justice's story started as far back as ancient Egypt, where the goddess Maat (and later Isis) personified the idea of justice as balancing the scales of truth and fairness. The Greek goddess Themis and her daughter, Dike, later represented the ideal of justice. The next goddess to carry the scales was the Roman deity Justitia.

The image of Justitia is the one we're familiar with today. She carries the scales in one hand, which she uses to weigh the strengths of a case's support and opposition. The double-edged sword she carries in her right hand symbolizes reason and justice. The blindfold she normally wears represents her objectivity.

She may not always be dressed the same, but Lady Justice will forever represent the same thing: an ideal legal system based on equality for all.

New FDA Web site makes tracking recalls easier

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently launched a brand-new Web site to make it easier for consumers to find out about and track recalled products.

About 3,000 Americans are killed by contaminated food every year, and 128,000 are hospitalized. The FDA is hoping that the site, along with new powers granted under the Food Safety Modernization Act (such as the ability of the FDA to directly recall a tainted product), will lead to fewer outbreaks.

The searchable site features drugs, medical devices, and veterinary products as well as food. It can be found at www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls.



THEY KNEW WHAT WHEN?!

It seems like every day another product is recalled. Most of us would like to think that as soon as a company knows there is a safety problem with one of their products, they warn their customers right away. The majority of the time, this is the case. Mistakes do happen. The unfortunate truth, however, is that there are many times when a company keeps a defective product on the market, knowing of the potential danger to consumers, for the sake of profit.

Zyprexa

Eli Lilly's Zyprexa was approved by the FDA in 1996 to treat schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. It wasn't long before Zyprexa became one of Eli Lilly's best-selling drugs. As early as 1999, company executives became aware of a direct link between Zyprexa and diabetes. Evidence from the company's own research showed the drug had severe side effects, including diabetes.

Instead of pulling Zyprexa from the market, Eli Lilly commissioned ghost writers to provide favorable literature for the drug. They also unleashed a marketing campaign aimed at children and the elderly: two high-risk groups for whom the FDA had not approved the drug's use.

When the facts finally came to light, the U.S. Justice Department fined Eli Lilly \$1.4 billion in 2009. That may sound like a big fine, but by that time, Zyprexa was making the company \$4.4 billion per year!



Killer peanuts

Executives at the Peanut Corp. of America (PCA) knew in 2006 that their products were tainted with salmonella. The contaminated peanuts were used in more than 3,600 products.

The problem was traced by investigators to a PCA plant in Blakely, Georgia, where a number of unsanitary conditions were found, including mold, roaches, roof leaks, and machinery held together by duct tape. FDA investigators reported "12 instances where the firm, as part of its own internal testing program, identified some type of salmonella." They sold the product anyway.

Why would they ignore their own testing? PCA president Stewart Parnell offered this explanation in an e-mail: "We need to protect ourselves, and the problem is that the tests absolutely give us no protection."

In 2009, PCA finally ordered a full recall of the contaminated products. By that time, 9 people had died and 700 were sickened by the tainted peanuts.

Second Chance Body Armor bulletproof vests

What do you call a bulletproof vest that can't stop a bullet?

In 1998, Second Chance Body Armor realized there was something wrong with the Zylon material used in their bulletproof vests. The Zylon in the vests was suffering degradation that left it unable to actually stop a bullet. Hundreds of thousands of vests were sold anyway to law enforcement and military personnel. President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush even wore them. It wasn't until 2003 that the company finally acted, eventually recalling 228,000 vests. Unfortunately, it was too late.

During a routine traffic stop in Oceanside, California, police officer Tony Zeppetella was shot in the chest, eventually dying from his wounds. His vest did not protect him.



The government is supposed to protect the American people from these kinds of dangers, but with agencies understaffed and underfunded, it is impossible to catch every problem. When regulators do catch a violator red-handed, the penalty is little more than a relatively small fine. This is why the civil justice system is so important; it offers consumers an opportunity for justice and provides a deterrent against future misconduct.

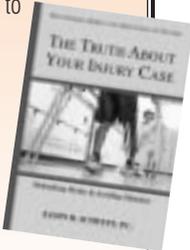
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Who's your favorite fictional lawyer?

Lawyers have long held a special place on TV and in the movies. That's why we thought it would be fun to have a contest to see who the most popular fictional lawyer is. Below, you'll find our five nominees. Write-in votes are certainly accepted, too. Pick your favorite and email your vote to Jason@JasonSchultzPC.com and we'll print the results in our next newsletter.

- Atticus Finch**—The hero of Harper Lee's novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Finch has long been held up as an example of what a great lawyer can do. In the film adaptation, Gregory Peck portrayed him to glowing reviews. In 2003, Finch was named as the greatest hero in American film by the American Film Institute.
- Jack McCoy**—Jack McCoy of TV's "Law and Order" has been fighting for justice since joining the show in 1994. His aggressiveness in going after the bad guys earned him the nickname "Hang 'em High McCoy."
- Rhonda Pearlman**—Assistant State's Attorney for Baltimore in the universe of HBO's "The Wire" is not an easy gig, but Rhonda Pearlman consistently succeeded in spite of the broken institutions surrounding her. Her success in prosecuting narcotics cases led the way to her becoming a judge by the end of the series.
- Perry Mason**—Whether in the novels, TV series, or made-for-TV movies, Mason won too many cases to count between 1933 and 1995. Not only could Mason get his innocent clients off the hook, he was also normally able to finger the real culprit!
- Jackie Chiles**—Maybe not the best fictional lawyer, Jackie still earns his place on this list of potential favorites on style alone. The go-to attorney for Cosmo Kramer on TV's "Seinfeld," his style brought to mind Johnnie Cochran of the O. J. Simpson trial, and his cases dealing with too-hot coffee and tobacco parodied the biggest real-life cases of the 1990s.

DEPUY HIP REPLACEMENT **RECALL**

Johnson & Johnson and its medical device subsidiary, DePuy Orthopedics, have recalled ASR XL Acetabular System total hip replacement and ASR Hip Resurfacing System.

Research has shown that the DePuy products are much more likely to cause complications. Five years after surgery, 12 to 13 percent of patients using the DePuy product were forced to undergo a second hip replacement surgery. The average replacement rate for other models is 6 to 7 percent.

DePuy has already begun contacting patients and offering to compensate them for medical expenses caused by the faulty implants. While we appreciate this effort, we still recommend that affected patients speak to an attorney before signing anything.