Pennsylvania Personal Injury Lawyers

FALL | 2021

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Marcus & Mack's founder, Robert S. Marcus, Esquire

Marcus & Mack's founder, Robert (Bob) Marcus, opened the doors of this law firm more than 40 years ago. At that time, most lawyers were considered general practitioners because they would handle any legal issue that walked

through the door. Bob recognized that operating a general practice was not consistent with providing the highest quality of legal representation. After all, what lawyer could possibly excel in every single area of the law? Recognizing that inconsistency, Bob decided that the best way to offer the highest standard of legal representation was to pick one area of law to practice and to do it well. For the past 40 years, Bob Marcus and the attorneys at Marcus & Mack, have only represented the interests of injury victims in their personal injury claims.

To say that Bob serves as a tireless and passionate advocate for his clients is truly an understatement. In fact, Bob's reputation for his fearless representation has earned him continual recognition by national organizations for his skill as a personal injury attorney. Bob has been repeatedly listed as Top 100 Civil Trial Lawyer in Pennsylvania by the National Association of Trial Lawyers. He has also been recognized by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel as a member of the "Nation's Top One Percent".

While Bob is proud of the recognition that has been bestowed upon him by his colleagues and competitors in the legal market, Bob is most proud of the culture that he has created at Marcus & Mack. Bob's father owned a car dealership and Bob eventually took over that family business. One of the first things that Bob learned about owning a business in a small town was that great customer service is the key to staying in business. Bob brought that mentality to his law firm. Every single day, Bob stresses the importance of communicating with our clients and making sure that they know we truly have their best interests at heart.

At Marcus & Mack, we understand that an injury can turn your life upside down. An injury can lead to an inability to work and to mounting medical bills. Don't trust just anyone to handle your claim. Call the law firm that, for more than 40 years, has focused on providing caring, skilled, and tenacious representation for injury victims. You only have one chance to make a recovery — make sure you call the right law firm. If you have any questions about your legal rights, please call us at 1-800-488-0338.

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Am I liable if someone else crashed my car?

You may not think twice about allowing a close relative or friend to drive your car if they really need to. However, you're also probably not thinking about the numerous consequences that come along if that person gets into an accident. Unfortunately, the resulting costs will not fall to the driver's insurance policy. In actuality, you, as the owner, are liable for all costs associated with the collision.

Car insurance is always tied to the vehicle, not the driver. Think of it this way – you're not just loaning somebody your car; you're also loaning them your auto insurance.

But why are you liable if someone else was behind the wheel of your vehicle? The answer is that you've given them permission to operate your car. This is what the insurance companies call "permissive use." On the other hand, if your car was stolen and involved in an auto accident, you would not be held accountable.

What is Permissive Use? Permissive use is an insurance industry term meaning that you have given direct or implied permission for someone else to drive your vehicle. The borrowing driver is covered under your auto insurance policy, just as you are. This means that if your friend or family member is involved in a collision while driving your car, you may be held responsible for damages and personal injury claims filed by the injured parties. You would be responsible for property damage, medical bills, lost earnings, and pain and suffering.

What is Negligent Entrustment? One of the biggest risks of loaning somebody your vehicle is when that person is reckless, incompetent, or unlicensed, and a collision occurs as a result. If the borrowing driver has a history of addiction or a poor driving record and gets into an accident, you could be put at risk for a lawsuit. This is what is known as negligent entrustment.

How to Protect Yourself We all want to help a relative or friend in need. While you might feel uncomfortable telling them "no" when they ask to borrow your car, it's still important to protect yourself. Before you hand over the keys, consider the following:

- Is the driver licensed?
- Do they have a good driving record or a history of reckless behavior?
- Is your insurance up to date and does it cover other drivers?
- What is the driver using the car for? Is it for a quick errand or a longer trip?

If you're uncomfortable with any answers to the above questions, think twice before allowing another person to drive your vehicle. You could be liable for injuries or damages in the event of an accident. If you or a loved one was involved in an auto accident, contact our office to find out how we can help.

Prevent injuries in school sports



Sports can be a great tool for children to learn attributes that can carry them through life, like teamwork, sacrifice, dedication, hard work and discipline. Sports also carry the risk of injury. Kids in particular are vulnerable for a host of reasons. Children under the age of 8 are particularly vulnerable as they are less coordinated and have slower reaction times. As kids mature, they do not all weigh the same or grow to the same height, which can create situations where injury could occur. With bigger children come increased forces. Two 60-pound football players colliding generate much less force than two 200-pound players.

This fall, as your kids return to school and the sports they love, keep in mind the following to make sure they enjoy their favorite sport safely.

Use proper equipment – Children should always wear the necessary safety equipment, whether it is football, hockey or bicycle riding to name a few. The equipment also needs to fit properly to ensure the best protection.

The most common athletic head injury is concussion. Research published by the University of Washington Medicine's Sport Health and Safety Institute and Seattle's Children's Research Institute in December 2018 found five out of every 100 football players aged 5 to 14 sustains a concussion each year.

Play on appropriate surfaces – Any football fields, baseball fields or running areas should be checked for holes that could cause a trip or a fall. High impact sports like running and basketball should be conducted on surfaces like wood or composite rubber instead of less-forgiving ones like concrete or asphalt.

Ensure there is adult supervision/commitment to safety – Find leagues and teams that make the same commitment to your child's safety as you do. Make sure coaches have training in things like CPR and first aid. Is the coaching philosophy win at all costs or is it a well-balanced one?

Make sure your child gets proper preparation –

Make sure your child knows how to play the sport before they set foot on a field or court. Kids also should receive sufficient warm-up time and practice time before games. Rest breaks and staying hydrated are also important for both practices and games.



Prescription medicines can work wonders for the sick or injured. However, when a pharmacist makes a mistake, the consequences could be dire and lead to hospitalization, injury, or even death.

While mistakes do happen, pharmacists have a duty to their patients to act responsibly.

What is Pharmacy Negligence?

Pharmacy negligence happens when a pharmacist or pharmacy staff member makes an omission or mistake due to careless procedure or operation. Examples of pharmacy negligence include:

- Incorrect Drugs: This happens when a pharmacist dispenses the wrong medication to a patient. This can happen if they misread a doctor's handwriting, mixed up patient prescriptions, or gave a patient a prescription with a similar name.
- **Missing Instructions:** Placing the wrong instructions or no instructions on a medication label can result in numerous complications.
- **Wrong Dosage:** Giving a patient an incorrect dosage can cause dangerous side effects or death.
- Lack of Drug and Patient Review: Pharmacists should always check if a medication will interact dangerously with other medicines the patient is currently taking.

What to Do After Pharmacy Negligence

If you or a loved one has suffered an overdose because of pharmacy negligence, you need to call 911 and get immediate medical assistance. Getting professional treatment after you've consumed the wrong medication, or too much medication is essential.

Once your health is stable, contact the pharmacy and notify them about the error. This alerts the pharmacy that their protocols and internal safety systems aren't working. You should also consider contacting a medical malpractice attorney.

Finally, change pharmacies when you're in the midst of a formal complaint or litigation.

It's crucial to know the correct dosages of the medications you're taking, how they interact with your other medicines, and how to take your medicine properly. This can protect you against potential pharmacy negligence.

Legalese

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Who hasn't ridden a bus at least once in their lives? Buses are the single largest source of mass transportation in the United States. Despite America's decades-long love affair with the automobile, commercial buses and school buses carry millions every year. An estimated 480,000 buses carry approximately 26 million children to and from schools throughout the United States. A Pew Research Center survey taken in late 2015 found 11 percent of Americans take public transportation on a daily or weekly basis. Buses are second to only air travel in terms of safety, but still account for 10 percent of all yearly traffic fatalities in the U.S.

If you have been injured as the result of a bus accident or your child has been injured in a school bus accident, it is possible to file a claim against the driver or the bus company and recover damages. It is important to note that commercial bus companies and school districts do have sizable financial resources and legal assistance at their fingertips, so you will need an experienced legal team to handle your claim. After seeking any medical assistance, you should immediately contact a law firm that has the ability to fight and win for you in a court of law. Do not battle the bus companies and school districts alone. Ensure your rights to compensation for lost wages, medical bills, and pain and suffering are protected.

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Five things a landlord owes a tenant

As of 2020, approximately 43 million housing units are occupied by renters in the United States. That is roughly 43 million leases involving landlords and tenants. There are landlord-tenant laws on the books in all 50 states. Some laws may vary from state to state. Below are five basic obligations every landlord must follow no matter what state a renter lives in.

- 1. An obligation to manage the security deposit Every landlord has the right to charge a security deposit. It never belongs to the landlord, but is there in case the renter damages property, fails to pay rent or breaches the lease in any other way. Landlords are obligated to follow specific rules on storing the deposit or returning the deposit.
- **2. An obligation to disclose ownership** Every landlord is required to disclose the names and addresses of anybody who is authorized to manage the building, make repairs, collect the rent, address complaints or issue notices. This is so the tenant knows the correct contacts.

- **3.** An obligation to deliver possession of unit The landlord is responsible for having the rental unit vacant and ready on the move-in date in the lease. A tenant moving in may be able to pursue legal action against the landlord if the property is not ready.
- **4. An obligation to maintain the unit** The landlord is legally required to keep the rental property clean, safe and habitable for the tenants. The landlord must ensure building codes are being followed, perform all necessary repairs and maintain basic services like heat, water and plumbing.
- 5. Obligations subject to the limitations of liability A landlord is relieved of liability in many states once they sell the rental unit and notify the tenant of new ownership or management. The new owner then becomes liable for the terms of the lease agreement. The landlord can either transfer the security deposit to the new owner and notify the tenant in writing or return the security deposit to the tenant, minus any appropriate deductions.

4 biggest slip-and-fall hazards to avoid this season

As the weather cools off and the days get shorter, people start looking forward to the holiday season. However, this enjoyable time can be littered with hazards that can increase the chances of a slip-and-fall accident. Did you know that over 25,000 slips-and-falls happen every day in the United States? To help you avoid an injury this season, here are four slip-and-fall hazards to watch out for.

1. Lack of Proper Lighting

As the sun starts to set earlier, the colder months can spell disaster for those walking around outside. Areas that aren't well-lit, including parking lots and walkways, can put you at risk. To stay safe, ensure all outdoor areas of your home or business have plenty of light.

2. Wet Leaves

Though the fall foliage is gorgeous to look at, it can also be dangerous. Piles of wet leaves can pose a threat to your family and visitors. Always rake dead leaves off your driveway and walkways. When you're out in public, keep an eye out for soggy leaves that have made their way into the entryway of buildings.

3. Slippery Floors

Colder temperatures produce more ice, sleet, and snow. This excess moisture will inevitably make your floors more slippery. Fully dry your floors or put down mats in high-traffic areas. While out and about, wear shoes with good tread.

4. Holiday Decorations

Adorning your property with festive décor and lights is a joyous activity for many families and businesses. If you plan on decking the halls, ensure all the wiring for lights doesn't pose a tripping hazard. If you put decorations in your yard, keep wires in areas without a lot of foot traffic.

With these four tips, you can enjoy the holiday season while avoiding injuries.



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When are auto accidents covered by workers' comp?

When one thinks about workers' compensation insurance, it likely involves on-the-job accidents happening in the office or on the factory floor. Did you know that you can also be eligible for workers' compensation benefits if you are involved in a work-related car accident?

Whether an injury sustained by an on-the-job auto accident is potentially covered by workers' compensation insurance depends on the conditions surrounding the vehicle's use at the time of the event. The insurance carrier's claims department will investigate each claim individually to see if the bodily injury is covered.

In the majority of cases, an injured employee will be covered by workers' comp if the accident happened in the course and within the range of an individual's employment. Applicable factors can include whether or not the employee was driving from one worksite

to another, or if the excursion involved making deliveries or running errands for an employer, or if the trip involved transporting a fellow employee somewhere or if the employee is working remotely and being compensated for travel time to and from home. An accident happening on an employee's commute to work is one example of something that would generally not be covered by workers' compensation insurance. There are times where it might be covered, depending on specific factors.

If you are injured in a work-related car accident as either a driver or a passenger, it is important to submit a notice of loss to your company's workers' compensation insurance carrier right away. Workers' compensation cases and auto accident case can be difficult and become increasingly so when combined. Seek out legal assistance from somebody qualified and experienced in both matters to get the remedy you deserve.

