



DLG Disparti Law Group

FALL 2007

Brought to you by
Disparti Law Group

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OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

PERSONAL INJURY PRACTICE

- Free consultation
- Home appointments available
- 24-hour emergency service
- No recovery. No fee. We do not get paid unless you do.
- Trial attorneys

Referrals

Thanks to all of you who have recommended our firm to your relatives, friends, and neighbors. We appreciate your vote of confidence and pledge to care for these "VIPs" as well as we care for you.

Disparti Law Group practice areas

As we faced increasing demands from our current and former clients for help in other areas of law in addition to social security disability, we have expanded our practice throughout the years in order to better serve all our past, present, and future clients. If you have legal issues in these areas or have any questions regarding any legal matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at **1-800-633-4091**.

- Social Security Disability/SSI
- Personal Injury
- Trucking Accidents
- Auto Accidents
- Slip and Fall
- Employment Law
- Insurance Disputes
- Real Estate
- Eminent Domain
- Boating Accidents
- DUI
- Negligence
- Criminal Defense
- Civil Litigation
- Wrongful Death



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ATTENTION! Changes in automobile insurance coverage

As of October 1, 2007, the Florida personal injury protection (PIP) laws are set to expire, unless the legislature does something. At this point, our legislature has cancelled the special session that was set for September 18. When this law expires, there will be many ramifications for Florida drivers. One of the more serious issues is that, without this law, there will be many drivers who are uninsured, and if you don't protect yourself and are a victim of an auto accident, you may be left with no recourse, as well as no insurance to help you see a doctor. As the details unfold, please contact the **Disparti Law Group, P.A.**, to find out more on how to protect yourself, or visit us on the Web at www.DispartiLaw.com.

Find out how to protect yourself—



www.DispartiLaw.com

We take your family's safety and security personally.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

Recalled product roundup

Here are some recently recalled products you may have in your home or at work:

- ✓ **Maytag Corporation** recalled 2.3 million Maytag® and Jenn-Air®-brand dishwashers in which liquid can leak from a dispenser, short-circuit wiring, and catch fire.
- ✓ **Old Williamsburgh Candle Corporation** has voluntarily recalled 3.7 million 3.5–5.0-ounce Old Williamsburgh Mason Jar Candles. Wicks can shift and crack glass, which can cut or burn users.
- ✓ **Arcraft and Foremost, Inc.**, has asked buyers to return 43,500 Sippy/Tumbler Cups, which can break when dropped and cut children.
- ✓ **American Honda Motor Corporation** recalled 11,000 Honda Model Year 2006 TRX450ER/R ATVs. Contaminated front-suspension-arm ball joints may wear and separate prematurely, injuring riders.
- ✓ **Detour Corp., doing business as Version-X**, has recalled 18,000 Travel’N Baby Mini Hair Dryers unequipped with industry-required immersion protection to prevent electric shock or electrocution if dropped into water.

©Maytag Corporation



Wrongful death

The death of a beloved is heart-breaking. Relatives will no longer share the deceased’s companionship, encouragement, or love.

Although compensation never truly makes up for the loss, our civil justice system permits next of kin and relatives to request fair monetary damages when the death of a loved one is caused by another’s negligence.

A student’s death

While climbing cliffs on a required field trip to a national seashore, a student fell, suffering fatal head injuries. His family sued the university for wrongful death, claiming it failed in its duty of care to monitor their son’s climbing. The case went to mediation, and the parties settled.

Hospital medication errors



The Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academy of Science recently reported that 1.5 million Americans are injured or killed by medication errors annually. Studies indicate that approximately 400,000 preventable drug-related injuries occur each year in hospitals. Another 800,000 occur in long-term-care settings, and roughly 530,000 occur among Medicare recipients in outpatient clinics.

In 2005, a 16-year-old died during induced labor when a nurse infused her IV with an epidural anesthetic instead of penicillin at a Wisconsin hospital.

Although bar-code technology and other tracking and monitoring strategies are being put into place, poor handwriting, human error, and carelessness cause many medication mistakes to continue to occur.

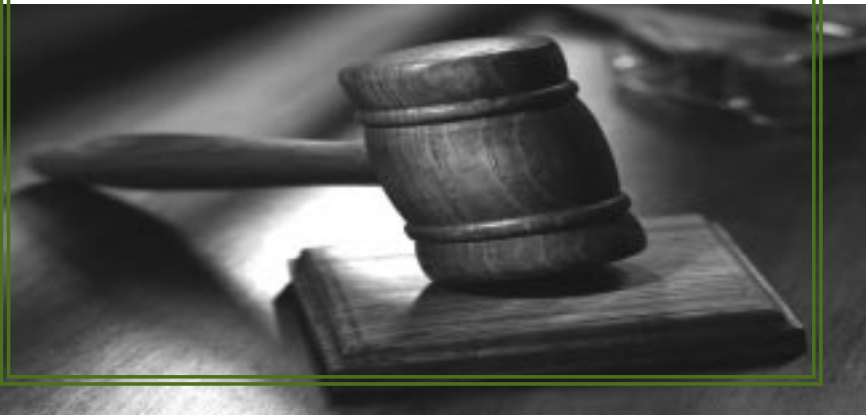
What can patients do to protect themselves?

- Know that you have a right to question anyone who is involved with your care.
- Make yourself or family members a part of your care team.
- Learn about your condition.
- Make sure your doctor knows all the medications you are given.
- Be sure to tell of allergies or reactions.
- Ask hospital staff to wash their hands before giving medications to you.
- Ask staff to confirm that they’re providing you the right drug, the correct dosage, at the right time.

Some patients actually hire private nurses to monitor hospital staff. If you feel you or a relative has been injured as a result of improper hospital medication or hospital staff negligence, talk to your doctor and seek legal counsel.

You can count on a trial lawyer for help if...

1. You're injured in an auto accident by a drunk driver.
2. A son is harmed by a dangerous over-the-counter medication.
3. A cousin slips on a piece of crushed fruit at a supermarket and breaks a wrist.
4. A neighbor becomes ill after taking a misfilled prescription.
5. Your family's key wage earner is injured on the job.
6. A radiologist misses a spot on a mammogram.
7. A child is injured at an amusement or water park.
8. Your insurer denies a claim for wind damage to your home.
9. A teen daughter is sexually harassed at school or work.
10. A coworker or supervisor discriminates against you at work.
11. An aging father is mistreated at a nursing home.
12. Your community's water supply is poisoned by a local manufacturer.
13. Your child is bitten by a vicious dog.



Premises liability

Texas apartment-complex residents lived in fear after complaining for months to unresponsive management about broken entrance drive gates.

First-grade teacher Bridget Kelly felt particularly endangered because management refused to install a chain lock on her door, even though it installed locks for others.



Bridget Kelly

In June 2002, an armed assailant kicked in Bridget's door, forced her to her car, demanded she withdraw money from her ATM, drove to a vacant field, and raped and shot her in the back three times. Seriously wounded, she pretended to be dead. When the attacker left, she stumbled to a nearby home and collapsed. The owner called EMTs, and surgeons repaired extensive internal damage, saving Bridget's life.

Her attacker was sentenced to life plus 40 years, but Bridget's apartment complex remained unsafe. Two years following her attack, management had still not responded to safety complaints, so Bridget filed a negligence lawsuit against the apartment complex and management company for failure to maintain security. With owners refusing to act responsibly, the civil justice system was Bridget's only resort to hold them accountable for resident safety and her terrible experience.

AUTO LEMON LAWS

All states and the District of Columbia have consumer-protection lemon laws that establish guidelines for manufacturers to repurchase or replace defective automobiles.

Auto buyers should read eligibility and notice requirements and be aware of available remedies if a dealer cannot meet the warranty after repeated repair attempts. Those who feel they have been unfairly treated by a car dealer should seek the counsel of an attorney familiar with consumer-protection claims involving defective vehicles and auto sales fraud.

A \$150,000 lemon

A dealership refused to make warranty repairs, blaming the owner for abuse after a high-performance sports-car part assembly broke down for a sixth time. When the owner's attorney sued, a jury found that the vehicle should have handled aggressive driving and awarded double the car's value to the plaintiff. The parties settled during appeal for the full amount of the verdict.



**Call 1-800-633-4091
for a free...**

Identity Theft Brochure

**What To Do in Case of
Automobile Accident
Brochure**

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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for consultation with an attorney. Specific conditions always require consultation with appropriate legal professionals.

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT— Craig Clendinen

Craig is of counsel to the **Disparti Law Group, P.A.** He focuses his work on insurance disputes as well as personal injury. Craig received his undergraduate degree from Florida Southern College and his Juris Doctor, with honors, from Florida State University College of Law. Craig is a member of the Florida Bar and also is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. He is AV-rated by *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*.

Prior to joining Disparti Law Group, P.A., Craig was the Chief of the Hillsborough County, Florida, State Attorney's Office Special Prosecutions Unit, which was primarily responsible for the investigation and prosecution of financial crimes. In this capacity, Craig served as a liaison to the Federal Bank Fraud Task Force, the Hillsborough County Telemarketing Task Force, the Health Fraud Task Force, and the Elder Crimes Task Force. Before becoming a prosecutor, he practiced in the litigation department of two of the area's larger law firms.

Craig's knowledge and insight have helped many people who are clients at the Disparti Law Group, P.A. We are all very fortunate to have such a high-caliber attorney working hard to protect your interests.

Auto accidents

Drivers who back up negligently

Each year, thousands of vehicles and pedestrians are struck by negligent drivers backing into parking spaces, leaving driveways, or departing from mall parking lots. For safety, some new cars come equipped with sensors that sound when backing up isn't safe, and onboard cameras and view screens that show drivers what's behind their autos. An attorney experienced with auto accidents can investigate this type of accident to determine how cars were damaged, if there were witnesses, and what speeds were involved to establish liability.

Jumping a curb

A pedestrian was severely injured by a vehicle that negligently backed into traffic, struck an oncoming car, and then overcorrected from the initial collision, sending the vehicle onto the sidewalk. The parties settled for medical and physical therapy expenses.

