

SUMMER 2000



Brought to you by
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OUR NEW NEWSLETTER!

We're sending our new newsletter to you because we care about your family's security and well-being.

In each issue, we'll give you information to help keep you and your family safe and healthy. Our newsletter will suggest protective steps to reduce the chances of harm or injury in your car, at home, at work, at school, or at play. We'll also update you about legal issues and cases you'll find helpful and which can improve everyday living.

Should you or a loved one suffer personal injury—and find you need us—you'll learn a lot here about what your legal options and remedies may be.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter. We have prepared it with the same personal and professional touches that you feel when you visit our practice. We also thank those who ask us to represent their legal needs and those who recommend us to others. We hope you'll share this information with them.

Swimming safety

Warm weather is here, and you'll want to keep your children safe when they are enjoying swimming in the ocean, pools, lakes, and rivers.

Children ages four and under are at highest risk, and serious incidents can happen quickly and quietly. To head off heartaches, keep the following water-safety guidelines in mind at all times.

- ◆ Always personally supervise children closely when they're at play near water.
- ◆ Do not consider flotation devices adequate protection.
- ◆ Enroll your child in swimming lessons, but don't rely on them instead of personal supervision.
- ◆ Learn CPR.
- ◆ Have safety and rescue equipment nearby.
- ◆ Keep emergency telephone numbers handy.
- ◆ Discourage diving or roughhousing.

If you have any questions about child water safety or incidents, please call us.



FREE TAPED INFORMATION*			
1-800-263-3901			
(Enter a 4-digit code)			
3717 PERSONAL INJURY	3720 Product Liability	1117 Spinal Injuries	1001 OUR FIRM
1003 Accident Tips	3723 Time Limitation	1119 Whiplash	1002 What Our Firm Can Do for You
3703 Auto Accidents	3724 Sexual Assault	1121 Burns and Scars	
3704 Boating Accidents	3727 Wrongful Death		
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*All messages are general information only and not legal advice. Do not try to solve legal problems based on the message's general information: call Larry King.

Call the right lawyer, right now. 757-595-8100

Prescription for error

To protect your family

- 1. If you cannot read your doctor's handwriting, it is possible that your pharmacist cannot read it either.** Ask your doctor to rewrite it legibly.
- 2. Ask the pharmacist to perform a DUR.** Understand cross-reactions, medication duplication, contra-indications, and other information which will help protect you from harm.
- 3. Inspect the medication.** If the pills look different from what you expect—or if you find some tablets that look different—don't take any.
- 4. Read the label carefully.** Ensure that the prescription is yours. Find your name, your doctor's name, and dosage instructions. Check the manufacturer's name, drug designation, number of milligrams per tablet, and total supply. If anything seems wrong, talk to your pharmacist or contact your doctor immediately. If you think you're a victim of wrongdoing, contact us.

Preventing fall injuries to children

More children are hurt from falls than from any other cause. Slips, trips, and tumbles send a third of all children age 14 and under to hospital emergency rooms and contribute to most product-related mishaps among youngsters age 5 and below. Many curious children fall from walkers, furniture, steps, windows, play facilities, and shopping carts.

To protect your young ones from falls:

- Never leave toddlers unattended in a potential fall situation.
- Use stationary alternatives to wheeled baby walkers.

- Install fine-mesh safety gates to block entrances to stairs.
- Keep furniture clear of windows, and install window guards.
- Take children to playgrounds underlaid by safe, soft-fill materials applied deeply and widely around equipment.
- Safety-belt your child in shopping carts.

If you have any questions about child-fall safety or incidents, please call us.

Product liability cases...

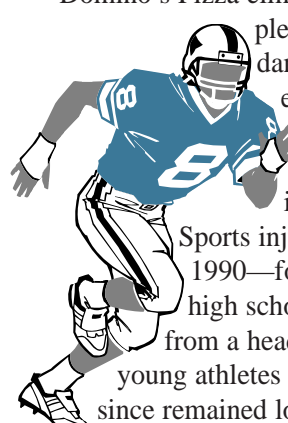
...and safer consumers

Here are several product liability cases that have made all our lives safer and more secure.

- A children's pajama manufacturer stopped making flammable garments after a Minnesota jury ordered it to pay compensatory and punitive damages to a badly burned four-year-old girl. The case also resulted in more stringent federal Flammable Fabrics Act standards.
- Domino's Pizza eliminated its dangerous fast-delivery pledge after a jury awarded punitive damages for auto accidents its delivery policy caused.

- Football helmet manufacturers improved product safety following a series of liability claims.

Sports injury research reported that in 1990—for the first time in 60 years—no high school or college football player died from a head or spinal injury. The number of young athletes killed while playing football has since remained low.



Playing with danger

For parents and grandparents

What could be unsafe about children's toys? Plenty. Ask the parents of the thousands of children who are treated every year for toy-related injuries. One of the keys to buying safe toys is to make sure that you match the plaything to the age and maturity of the child for whom you buy it. If it shoots, slings, spins, or twirls, chances are that it could be dangerous in small hands.

Ask yourself these questions before buying a toy for your children or grandchildren:

- Does it shoot projectiles fast or hard enough to damage an eye?
- Could sharp or pointed edges or parts cause injury?
- Can fast-moving parts cut or scratch soft tissue?
- Could small or loose parts become trapped in a child's throat?
- Does the toy contain any substances that may irritate an eye or even be poisonous?

In the end, when shopping for a child, your best asset is common sense.

(KEEP THIS ARTICLE IN YOUR CAR)

ACCIDENT GUIDE

Protect your rights. What to do in an auto accident.

No one expects or wants to be in an accident, but accidents can happen to anyone. Chances are that one day you or a loved one will be injured by someone else's carelessness. When an accident happens, the initial steps you take are crucial. The following suggestions are some of the things you can do to protect your legal interests.

WHEN AN ACCIDENT HAPPENS

Safely stop. Stay calm and alert. Be cautious of approaching traffic. Do not become hostile to the other driver. Be polite and cordial.

Call 911 for the police and medical care. Always call the police when involved in an accident. Always request medical assistance for those injured. Always report your injuries no matter how slight. Injuries frequently become worse. Seek prompt medical attention.

Do not discuss the accident. Do not take blame for the accident. Exchange information required by law, but do not make any other statements. Cooperate with the police officer, but do not make any damaging comments. Anything you say can be used against you. Remember that you have a right to talk with a lawyer before making any statements.

Gather and record all pertinent information. Get the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all witnesses. Many witnesses of accidents leave without giving any information. Do not rely on the investigating officer to obtain this information. If possible, take photographs or a video of the accident scene and all vehicles.

Your insurance companies. You must promptly report the accident to your company. Failure to do so could result in a loss of coverage. It is prudent to talk to your attorney first.

The other insurance company. The biggest mistake people make is talking to the other insurance company. Remember, your interest is **not** their interest. They are a business and you are their expense. They want to get out of a claim as quickly and as cheaply as possible, no matter what the consequences to you. Protect yourself. Do not give them a statement, particularly a recorded statement. Do not sign anything for them. You are not required to talk to the other insurance company. Call us first.

Immediately call Larry King for a free consultation. The Law Firm of Larry King handles all types of accidents. For the individual attention you deserve and a full explanation of your rights, call Larry King. The firm will handle every aspect of your case in a thorough and professional manner. Combining years of knowledge and experience with the latest in technology, the firm takes special pride in aggressively representing injured persons. Call for a free consultation.

OTHER ACCIDENTS

The foregoing suggestions can apply to all types of accidents. Gather and retain as much information as possible. Take photographs or videos. Be careful about what you say. Get immediate medical attention. Document your injuries. Immediately call Larry King for your free consultation.

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FOR YOUR SAFETY

Recalled product roundup

Here are some recently recalled products you may have at home or at work. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) cautions that many thrift stores sell hazardous products that have been recalled, banned, or do not meet current safety standards. Last year, the CPSC visited 301 randomly selected thrift stores nationwide and found that 69 percent sold at least one hazardous product. The top three products found were children's jackets and sweatshirts with drawstrings that presented a strangulation hazard, hair dryers that do not protect against electrocution, and cribs that do not meet current safety standards.

- ☑ Gateway Inc., a computer marketer, has recalled one million foam, black-and-white rubber toy cows because small foam rubber pieces can tear away and choke children.
- ☑ Perfecto Manufacturing, Inc., aquarium SHOLights has sharp edges that can cut wiring insulation and cause fire, shocks, or electrocution.
- ☑ Montgomery Ward, Inc., North West Blue boys' hooded jackets and sweatshirts with drawstrings at the neck that can strangle children.

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Dog bites

Dogs bite 4.5 million people, send 334,000 to emergency rooms, and kill 17 Americans each year. One insurer reported 14,000 dog bite claims and \$80 million in liability claims in a recent year. Unfortunately, children receive six of ten dog bites.

If you or a family member is bitten by a dog:

- Get medical attention.
- Report the incident to law enforcement and animal control.
- Contact us immediately.

Any dog, no matter how well-trained and friendly, can bite, and its owners should be liable. Here are steps we may take to help our clients receive fair compensation from animal-bite incidents.

- Check for license, collar, inoculations, and the like.
- Interview veterinarians.
- Review law enforcement and animal control reports.
- Talk to witnesses, neighbors, and mail carriers.

A serious attack

She under a 100-pound dog attacked a jogger, she underwent spinal and facial surgery and pain management treatment. Her attorney sued the dog's owner, alleging he knew his dog was vicious and he violated municipal animal-control ordinances. A jury awarded the woman compensatory damages and pre-judgment interest.

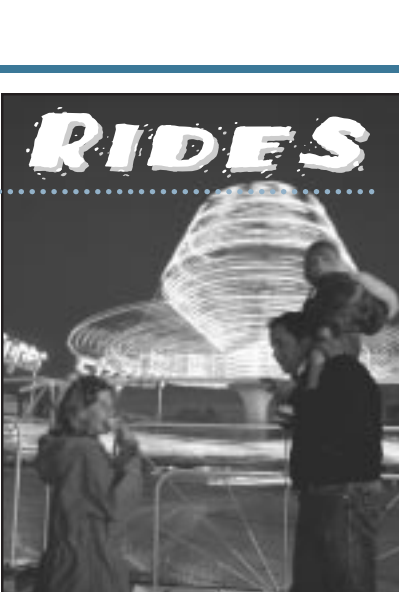
THRILL RIDES

How to keep your family safer

Everyone—especially children—loves amusement parks and thrill rides. But they can be dangerous.

In 1999, six people died on amusement park rides, and about 9,000 more were injured on them. With rides being designed to be faster and more exciting, injuries are increasing.

- Don't let your family take chances.
- Get a park ride safety brochure, if available.
- Comply with age or height restrictions.
- Chaperone youngsters.
- Don't get on if you're afraid.
- Buckle all safety harnesses and restraints.
- Keep hands inside, and hold on.
- Don't wear loose-fitting clothing, especially baggy sleeves.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages.
- Know where first aid or EMT service is.



A roller-coaster incident

A child received severe scalp injuries when her hair caught in a roller-coaster car's motor. When her parents sued, their lawyer obtained a settlement after demonstrating that operators failed to inspect the car and discover a dangerous space between the child's seat and the motor's cover.