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TORNADO SAFETY

QUICK TIPS

1. Seek shelter under a sturdy table in the basement.
2. If no basement is available, go to a first floor, small interior room or a room on the opposite side from a tornado. Stay away from windows.
3. In mobile homes, seek safety in a designated safety shelter. As a last resort, lie down in a ditch or depression or culvert.
4. In schools, churches, and shopping centers, go to designated shelters away from outside walls, glass, and large rooms (malls, auditoriums). Get under a table or counter or in a restroom or small storeroom. **DO NOT GO TO YOUR PARKED CAR**
5. In motels, go to a designated shelter area. If there is no time to reach a shelter, lie down in the lowest-level interior hallway away from glass. Dive under a bed or pull a mattress on top of you as last resort.
6. Large rooms with poorly supported roofs are not safe areas in tornadoes.
7. Modern reinforced concrete buildings, such as large institutional or office buildings, are usually not heavily damaged by a tornado. These structures will generally provide relatively safe areas during a tornado, providing persons stay away from windows.
8. Do not get in a car or truck. If you are already in your vehicle, drive away at a right angle to the storm movement. **DO NOT GET CAUGHT IN YOUR VEHICLE.** Abandon your vehicle and lie in a ditch or culvert or under a low bridge. Overall: *Underground and under a table* are the watchwords. *People who get under something usually survive.*



Here at Penn & Seaborn, we are constantly looking for ways to connect with our clients and members of our community in order to keep them up to date on what is going on within the firm and within the communities that we are so fortunate to be a part of. Our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts are full of information we think may benefit you. You can access us on Facebook by searching "Penn & Seaborn" and our Instagram and Twitter accounts may be located by searching the username "penn_seaborn". These accounts also serve as a way to contact us, get directions to our nearest office, share your experience with us, and so much more! We are so thankful to those who have already become a part of our online experience, and we encourage everyone else to check us out!



Recent Filings

Penn & Seaborn filed a slip and fall case against a chain store for a Bullock County client. Our client was injured due to standing water that was clearly hazardous to all the store's patrons.

Penn & Seaborn filed a lawsuit in the Eufaula Division of Barbour County on behalf of a driver whose vehicle was struck from behind by a distracted driver.

Penn & Seaborn filed a Pike County, Alabama car wreck case. Our client had to brake for vehicles in front of her, but the driver of the car behind our client failed to pay attention and struck our client's vehicle.

Penn & Seaborn filed a lawsuit in Dale County, Alabama. Our clients were traveling on Highway 231 when a negligent driver emerged from the break in the median and struck our client's vehicle.

Penn & Seaborn recently filed a lawsuit on



behalf of a Bullock County man who was involved in an accident with a distracted driver. The driver of the other vehicle failed to keep his eyes on the road and struck the vehicle our client was driving. As a result, our client suffered significant injury and required an extended stay at the hospital.

Our firm has filed a lawsuit in Eufaula, Alabama on behalf of a client who

purchased a brand new manufactured home, but when it was delivered it was unfinished and in horrid, uninhabitable condition. Penn & Seaborn filed suit against the retailer who sold the home and the manufacturer who built the home. We hope to hold the Defendants accountable for their actions and receive the justice our clients deserve.

Recent Settlements

Penn & Seaborn settled a car wreck that occurred in the Clayton Division of Barbour County. A distracted driver that was texting came into our client's lane and caused the accident. Our client was able to take evasive action that lessened the severity of the crash. The case had a very good outcome for our client.

Penn & Seaborn reached a settlement in a Montgomery County motor vehicle accident. A negligent driver traveling at a high rate of speed struck our client's vehicle. The other driver's inattentiveness could have caused a

catastrophic accident, but fortunately our client was not severely injured.

Penn & Seaborn recently settled a Montgomery County dog bite case on behalf of a law enforcement officer. This case had a unique set of facts, and a great result for our client.

Penn & Seaborn obtained a settlement in a Baldwin County, Alabama motor vehicle crash. Our client was a Georgia man who was a passenger travelling to Pensacola, Florida. The driver ran his car off the road and crashed into a tree. We

were able to obtain policy limits in favor of our seriously injured client against the driver's insurance company. Our client was fortunate to have survived the crash.

Penn & Seaborn recently reached a confidential settlement on behalf of our client who was injured while shopping in a store. Our client slipped and fell in water while reaching for an item on a shelf. The store failed to keep the premises safe and created a hazard for its own customers. An excellent outcome was reached for our client.

These recoveries and testimonials are not an indication of future results. Every case is different, and regardless of what friends, family, or other individuals may say about what a case is worth, each case must be evaluated on its own facts and circumstances as they apply to the law. The valuation of a case depends on the facts, the injuries, the jurisdiction, the venue, the witnesses, the parties, and the testimony, among other factors. Furthermore, no representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Pharma and Devices

E-CIGARETTES EXPLODING BATTERIES BEHAVE LIKE FLAMING ROCKETS

April 3, 2017, 08:00:00AM | By Deb Hipp

New Brunswick, NJ A New Jersey man recently sued a business that sells vaping products after an exploding e-cigarette allegedly shot flames down his pants and left him physically and emotionally scarred from the explosion.

William and Kathleen Barrese filed a lawsuit *William Barrese et al v. Gorilla Vapes LG Chem Ltd.*, Case No. MID L001414-17, Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County against Gorilla Vapes, a New Jersey e-cigarette and e-liquids supplier, in Middlesex County Superior Court in March 2017, claiming that an e-cigarette battery exploded in William Barrese's pants pocket while he was at work, engulfing his leg in flames.

E-cigarettes are handheld devices that use lithium-ion batteries and heat to vaporize a flavored liquid that typically contains nicotine and other ingredients. The device produces an aerosol that's inhaled into the lungs.

Many e-cigarette manufacturers market vaping devices as being a safer alternative for cigarette smokers. However, consumers

have reported numerous e-cigarette products as being allegedly defective or dangerous. Barrese claims in his lawsuit that his e-cigarette battery exploded without warning in his pocket.

"William Barrese quickly realized that his leg was covered in black residue and his skin was severely charred," according to the lawsuit. "The explosion resulted in extensive burns on his lower extremity."

Barrese's alleged e-cig explosion was "not a novel occurrence," according to the petition, which referenced additional consumer injuries, including a New Jersey man who allegedly suffered second degree burns to his arm and face as a result of an e-cigarette explosion and a separate incident involving a Camden County woman.

The woman allegedly suffered catastrophic injuries to her mouth and teeth, "almost losing her right eye" when an e-cigarette exploded in her face, according to the complaint. In another incident, a southern New Jersey resident required a skin graft after suffering extensive burns to his leg and foot, according to the lawsuit.

Twenty-five separate incidents of explosion and fire involving an e-cigarette were reported in the US media between 2009 and August 2014, according to



a 2014 report by issued by the US Fire Administration.

E-cigarettes with lithium-ion batteries can behave like "flaming rockets" when a battery fails, according to the same report.

"Complaints of injury caused by e-cigarettes continue to rise as the devices become more popular," states Barrese's complaint.

"These products continue to be placed into the stream of commerce despite being untested and unsafe. E-cigarettes will continue to cause these types of injuries unless and until those placing them in the stream of commerce are held accountable," according to the lawsuit.

XARELTO

Lawsuits filed against Johnson & Johnson subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Bayer Corp. over the blood thinner Xarelto have been consolidated in Louisiana federal court. Xarelto has been linked to serious side effects including internal bleeding, gastrointestinal bleeding, brain bleed and death. The Xarelto lawsuits come on the heels of the recent \$650 million Pradaxa settlement. Researchers linked Pradaxa, also a blood thinning medication, to more than 500 deaths. Xarelto blood thinner litigation has been consolidated before U.S. District Judge Eldon Fallon in the Eastern District of Louisiana, who presided over suits against Merck & Co. over its medication Vioxx. The Vioxx litigation resulted in a \$4.85 billion settlement in 2007.

TESTOSTERONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY

(TRT) products for men have been linked to an increased risk of death, heart attack and stroke. Researchers found men who used testosterone therapy were 30 percent more likely to have a heart attack,

stroke, or die after three years of use. A second study found that men had a significant increase in risk of heart attack and stroke in just the first 90 days of testosterone therapy use. Furthermore, men who started the study with clear, unobstructed coronary arteries were just as likely to have a heart attack, stroke or die as men who entered the study with established coronary artery disease. Testosterone therapy, such as the prescription topical treatments AndroGel, Testim and Axiron, are used to help testosterone levels in men who have a deficiency of the male hormone. Symptoms of low testosterone include decreased libido and low energy.

E-CIGARETTE EXPLOSIONS

We are handling cases involving e-cigarettes. In addition to concerns about toxic chemicals associated with the devices, we are currently investigating cases involving severe injuries caused by exploding e-cigarette devices and exploding e-cigarette batteries. These explosions have been linked to faulty e-cigarette products, defective

lithium-ion batteries, and insufficient warnings for users. With few regulations to ensure their safety, e-cigarette devices have been aggressively marketed and sold in stores throughout the United States.

IVC FILTERS

Retrievable IVC filters are wire devices implanted in the vena cava, the body's largest vein, to stop blood clots from reaching the heart and lungs. These devices are used when blood thinners are not an option. Manufacturers include Bard, Cook and Johnson & Johnson. While permanent IVC filters have been used since the 1960s with almost no reports of failure, retrievable IVC filters were introduced in 2003, designed for use in bariatric surgery and orthopedic surgery. Risks associated with the retrievable IVC filters include migration, fracture and perforation, leading to embolism, organ damage and wrongful death.

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