Corradino & Papa, llc

A Personal Injury Law Firm

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CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE

page 2

Clear road construction signage is imperative

Injury claims, injury lawsuits . . . not the same thing

page 3

Spotlight of the month

Children and motor vehicle accidents

page 4

Chickpea salad



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when boarding or exiting a school bus goes wrong

According to the American School Bus Council, over 26 million kids ride the bus to and from school each day during the academic year. That's a lot of boarding and exiting. In fact, these account for nearly 25 percent of the roughly 17,000 bus-related injuries requiring ER visits each year — and an average of 19 fatalities, compared to the seven caused by vehicular accidents.



A major issue is visibility. Younger children are already smaller and may be tough to see if they walk too close to the front end of the bus, even more so if they drop something and crouch down to pick it up. A momentarily distracted or unwary bus driver may embark too soon and strike a child. Newer bus models with flat front ends provide an improved view, but older models still abound on the roadways.

A child may exit the bus who needs to cross a busy street — with the full protection of the bus's warning lights and "stop" sign. If the child delays and the driver leaves before the child crosses, the child may be endangered. Also, a bus driver who is distracted upon approaching a bus stop might hit a child who was too close to the curb or in the street.

Highly energetic kids confined in a small space can be chaotic; however, bus drivers still owe a duty of care to their passengers. Check out important safety tips at www. nhtsa.gov/road-safety/school-bus-safety.

Because public schools are government entities, the legal doctrine of sovereign immunity comes into play, adding complexity to injury cases. If your child is injured in a school bus-related accident, contact **Corradino & Papa**, **LLC** o protect their rights.

Your Biggest Accident Could Be Your Choice of Attorney

CLEAR ROAD CONSTRUCTION SIGNAGE

is imperative

There seems to be no escape from road construction — highways, city streets, country roads, you name it. Most times, we welcome the final results with open arms. But until that point ... ugh!

Road construction signage plays a critical role in keeping drivers safe as they navigate new terrain. A lack of construction signage, confusing or inadequate signage, or improperly positioned signage can lead to severe injuries for drivers and/or construction workers.



It starts with a clear warning of upcoming construction. Drivers need to be alerted with ample time to prepare. A sudden backup of traffic around a slight bend in the highway at 65 mph does no one any favors.

Uneven pavement, lane shifts, lane closures, reduced speed limits, and narrowing of lanes, among other conditions, need to be highlighted as well. Construction projects can be unsettling for drivers who are familiar with the area, let alone those who are passing through for the first time. Night driving and inclement weather make proper signage even more critical.

It is incumbent upon roadway construction crews to make sure vital signage isn't covered and that signs are clean. Dirty or damaged signs that are difficult to read can result in driver confusion and accidents. Signs should utilize retroreflective materials for improved nighttime visibility.

A road construction company has a duty to keep a construction zone safe for motorists. That may include going above and beyond government regulations. When a construction company breaches that duty, it's the equivalent of negligence.

If you are injured as a result of improper road construction signage, contact **Corradino & Papa, LLC** to protect your rights. ■

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not the same thing

If you have been injured or suffered losses due to the negligence of another person or business, you may be entitled to compensation. You can file a personal injury claim or a personal injury lawsuit—two distinct processes.

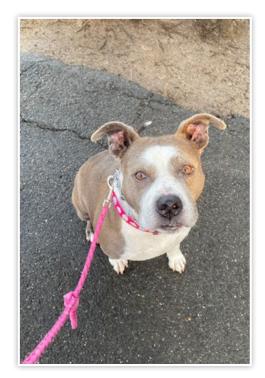
Typically, a personal injury claim involves you and the at-fault party's insurance company. You will notify them of the circumstances of your case—ideally with a well-crafted demand letter—and what you expect to receive in compensation.

The insurance company will investigate your claim and decide what they are willing to pay you, if anything. If you negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement, the insurance company will send you a release form and check. Once you sign the release and cash the check, your claim is final. It cannot be revisited in the future.

It is strongly recommended that you hire a personal injury attorney, **Corradino & Papa, LLC** when filing a significant claim. Without one, the process can be a minefield. Insurance companies seek what's best for them—not for you—by paying as little as possible. An attorney will handle all correspondence with the insurance company, write your demand letter, determine what medical information should be released, negotiate your settlement, and ensure your future rights, among other duties.

If an acceptable negotiated settlement cannot be reached or the at-fault party's insurance is not enough to cover your losses, your attorney can file a personal injury lawsuit with the court. A personal injury lawsuit is typically a last resort—due to time and cost considerations—but it's a powerful tool for achieving fair compensation when your case is strong.

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spotlight of the month

Fiona was a rescue who did not have a forever home for the first five years of her life. She was in a local shelter for one year until she found her forever home with RC and Shannon Papa. She is well behaved and has a ton of energy. She's about 9 years old and loves snacks and her chew toys. She also snores louder than any human. She flinches and woofs while sleeping which is very entertaining.

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CHILDREN AND

motor vehicle accidents

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly 150 children between ages 0 and 19 are treated *every hour* in emergency departments for injuries sustained in motor vehicle crashes and *more children ages 5 to 19 die from crash-related injuries than from any other type of injury.*

One of the best ways to help keep your children safe in vehicles is to know and understand the appropriate age, height and weight limits for car seats, booster seats and seat belt use:

Birth up to Age 2 – For the best possible protection, infants and children should be buckled in a rear-facing car seat, in the back seat, until age 2 or when they reach the upper weight or height limit of their seat.

Age 2 up to at least Age 5 – When children outgrow their rear-facing seat they should be buckled in a forward-facing car seat, in the back seat, until at least age 5 or when they reach the upper weight or height limit of their seat.



Age 5 up until seat belts fit properly – Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat they should be buckled in a belt positioning booster seats until seat belts fit properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs (not the stomach) and the shoulder belt lays across the chest (not the neck).

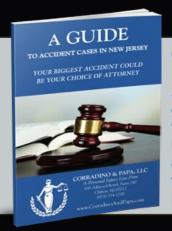
Back Seat is Safest. All children aged 12 and under should be properly buckled in the back seat. Airbags can kill young children riding in the front seat. Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an air bag. Buckle children in the middle of the back seat when possible, because it is the safest spot in the vehicle. ■

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September 3 — Skyscraper Day September 6 — Fight Procrastination Day September 14 — Eat a Hoagie Day September 19 — Talk Like a Pirate Day

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FREE BOOK

Get Jack Corradino and Robert Papa's New Ultimate Guide to Accident Cases in NJ, written by Jack and RC. It will explain "Why your biggest accident could be your choice of attorney", and what to do in the event you are injured.

Here To Find Out More

Personal Injury

Quote of the Month: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

chickpea salad

Serves 6; calories per serving: 240; prep time: 10 minutes; cook time: 0 minutes

Delicious, low in fat, and packed with protein, chickpea salad is the perfect send-off for the fresh summer produce season!

Ingredients

- 1 avocado
- 1/2 fresh lemon
- 1 can chickpeas, drained (19 oz.)
- 1/4 cup red onions, sliced
- 2 cups grape tomatoes, sliced
- 2 cups cucumber, diced
- 3/4 cup green bell peppers, diced

Dressing ingredients

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- salt and pepper



Instructions

1. Cut avocado into cubes and place in bowl. Squeeze juice from 1/2 lemon over avocado and gently stir to combine.

1/2 cup fresh parsley (dried parsley doesn't hack it for this salad; cilantro and dill are preferable substitutes)

- 2. Add remaining salad ingredients and gently toss to combine. (Note: If salad is prepared well ahead of mealtime, keep avocado and lemon juice separate from rest of salad ingredients until just before eating.)
- 3. Refrigerate at least one hour before serving.
- 4. Dressing ingredients can be combined in a mason jar ... give it a good shake! (Leftover dressing will keep for at least one week.)

(Recipe courtesy of Holly N., www.spendwithpennies.com.)









