



Corradino & Papa, LLC

A Personal Injury Law Firm

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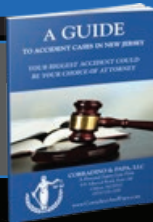
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INJURY CLAIMS, INJURY LAWSUITS . . . not the same thing

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 and 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. **Corradino & Papa** can 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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when chemical restraints ARE ABUSED

Too many nursing-home owners place profits above quality of care. Their facilities are understaffed to cut costs, which leads to fatigue, errors, and shortcuts. Residents bear the brunt of this business model, frequently suffering physical, mental, and emotional harm.

One such shortcut is the use of chemical restraints — psychotropic medications that adjust the balance of important brain chemicals (neurotransmitters). Classifications include anti-anxiety, antidepressant, mood stabilizer, stimulant, and antipsychotic.

When used for legitimate medical reasons, psychotropic medications can be an effective therapeutic tool. However, they are often utilized in nursing homes to sedate patients and restrict their movement (not their designed purposes), thus making patients easier to manage. They are applied not for the benefit of the patient, but the convenience of the staff.

This practice is dangerous, unethical, and illegal. Psychotropic medications are extremely potent. Needlessly administering them renders patients vulnerable to serious side effects such as increased cognitive dysfunction, agitation, pressure sores, loss of muscle function, and higher susceptibility to falls, among many others.

The Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 states that nursing home residents have the right to be free from chemical (and physical) restraints applied for the convenience of the staff or for disciplinary reasons. Chemical restraints may only be employed to keep a resident from endangering themselves or others, and only when a doctor writes an order that details the circumstances and duration of their use (there is an exception for emergencies).

If a loved one's mood, behavior, or cognitive ability abruptly changes, pursue answers from nursing staff and doctors, and request a look at the medical records. If you believe your loved one has been harmed, contact [Corradino & Papa, llc](#) for expert legal guidance. ■

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SPARRING OVER

tractor-trailer side guards

Injuries and fatalities spurred by passenger-vehicle collisions with tractor-trailers and other large commercial trucks have been rising over the last decade. Side underride guards may help stem the tide.

Underride guards are metal bumpers/bars that hang from the back (and sometimes sides) of tractor-trailers to prevent passenger vehicles from sliding underneath them in a crash. Without underride guards, the consequences can be horrific: the tops of passenger vehicles sheared off; vehicles run over by a truck's wheels and dragged a distance; and devastating injuries and fatalities.

Rear underride guards were mandated by the federal government in 1996; enforcement began in 1998. Though not foolproof, they have decreased fatalities and the severity of crash injuries.

However, currently there is no mandate for side underride guards. In March 2021, senators and representatives in the U.S. Congress reintroduced the "Stop Underrides Act," which was previously rejected in 2017 and 2019. The new version requires side guards for all new trucks and trailers — instead of retrofitting older ones — and tweaks the "outdated" standards for rear underride guards.

The trucking industry opposes this legislation and counters with these arguments:

- Side guards add 500 to 800 pounds of weight to the trailer. Added weight and reduced payloads have economic implications.
- Trailers with side guards are less flexible. When operated on rough roads or those producing twisting forces, tractor-trailers are more likely to become disabled and pose a danger to other motorists.
- High centering of the side guards on steep changes in roadway levels can be problematic (e.g., elevated railroad crossings) — and potentially hazardous.

If you suffer harm in a truck crash resulting from another party's negligence, contact [Corradino & Papa, llc](#) to protect your rights. ■

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Marshall

spotlight of the month

Marshall is part of the Velazquez Family. He is a 2-year old male miniature Schnauzer.

Our son named him after a character from the movie "Paw Patrol". We drove all the way to Atlantic City to adopt him from a breeder. Do not let his cuteness fool you. Marshall can be a little spiteful at times when he wants your undivided attention. But at the end of the day, he is a wonderful companion, and we all adore him. ■

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water, erosion, and a sinking feeling

We've all seen news accounts of roadways and properties beset by sinkholes. Some visuals are terrifying.

Water drainage and the subsequent erosion of underground rock, particularly limestone, salt, or gypsum, create ever-growing holes and channels. Eventually, a subsurface cavity becomes large enough that surface material collapses into it — a sinkhole. Drought conditions followed by flooding elevate sinkhole risk as well.

Some natural sinkholes provide advance warning; many do not. A building may exhibit cracks in the walls or foundation due to its shifting base. Dips in a yard or roadway, circular patches of withered vegetation, and separations in concrete may hint at looming trouble.

Sinkholes can also be human-made ... and form quickly. Burst water pipes intensify underground water flow and erosion. Mining, drilling, construction work, and heavy traffic can destabilize underground rock.

Receiving compensation for sinkhole injuries depends on the circumstances. Sometimes a sinkhole is simply an unforeseeable natural occurrence. No negligence, no personal injury claim.

Negligence may be involved if ...

- a responsible party was (should have been) aware of evidence of a potential sinkhole and did not respond like a reasonable person would have in similar circumstances.
- an already-formed sinkhole was not clearly marked.
- a sinkhole was artificially created.

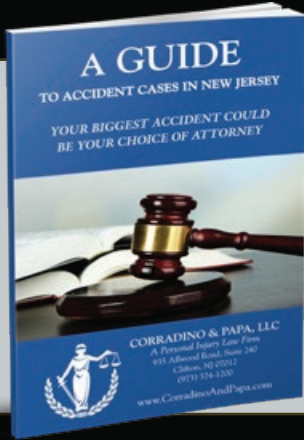
Homeowners insurance might cover property damage caused by sinkholes ... but might not. In some states, purchasing standalone sinkhole insurance is critical. Comprehensive coverage in an auto insurance policy will generally cover vehicle damage. Occasionally, home buyers are harmed by real estate agents who fail to disclose known sinkhole issues.

If you suffer injury or property damage due to a sinkhole, contact [Corradino & Papa, llc](#) to explore your options. ■

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August 2021 – Mark Your Calendars

Aug. 1 – National Mountain Climbing Day Aug. 4 – Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
 Aug. 6 – Fresh Breath Day Aug. 10 – Lazy Day Aug. 13 – Friday the 13th
 Aug. 21 – Honey Bee Awareness Day Aug. 28 – Race Your Mouse Day



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.

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Workers' Compensation
Medical Malpractice
Construction Accidents
Motor Vehicle Accidents
Product Liability
Wrongful Death
PIP Arbitration**

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.

the best broccoli salad

Ingredients

- 1 pound broccoli crowns
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons mayo, I like Sir Kensington's or vegan mayo
- 1½ tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon maple syrup or honey
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- ¼ teaspoon sea salt, more to taste
- ⅓ cup diced red onions
- ⅓ cup dried cranberries

Smoky tamari almonds

- ½ cup almonds
- ½ cup pepitas
- 1 tablespoon tamari
- ½ teaspoon maple syrup
- ¼ teaspoon smoked paprika, more to taste



Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Chop the broccoli florets into ½-inch pieces and any remaining stems into ¼-inch dice. Peel any woody or course parts from the stem first.
3. In the bottom of a large bowl, whisk together the olive oil, mayo, apple cider vinegar, mustard, maple syrup, garlic, and salt. Add the broccoli, onions, and cranberries and toss to coat.
4. Place the almonds and pepitas on the baking sheet, toss with the tamari, maple syrup, and smoked paprika and spread into a thin layer. Bake 10 to 14 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and let cool for 5 minutes (they'll get crispier as they sit).
5. Toss the almonds and pepitas into the salad, reserving a few to sprinkle on top. Season to taste and serve.

**Note: Chop the florets into roughly ½-inch pieces. Dice the stem into smaller ¼-inch pieces. ■*