



Corradino & Papa

A Personal Injury Law Firm

973-574-1200

CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE

page 2

The college experience should be a safe one

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

page 3

Corradino & Papa birthdays In August

School buses, safety, and seat-belt exclusion

page 4

Easy bruschetta chicken bake



speeding

A QUICKER WAY TO TRAGEDY

Speeding is one of the most dangerous habits exhibited on our roadways. According to the National Safety Council, speeding was a factor in 29% of the nation's traffic fatalities in 2021 — over 12,000 deaths; approximately 33 per day.



The faster a person drives, the less time they have to react and the greater their stopping distance. Driving too fast also diminishes the ability of safety structures/devices such as guardrails and impact attenuators to protect vehicle occupants in a crash.

“Driving too fast for conditions” amounts to the same thing as speeding. Driving at the 55-mph speed limit in dry, sunny conditions may be safe, but if the roads are snow covered or there's a driving rainstorm, 55 is hazardous.

To illustrate speed's deadly nature, the chances of a pedestrian being killed by a driver traveling at 20 mph are approximately 5%. That percentage shoots up to 45% when struck by a vehicle at 30 mph (per the *British Medical Journal*). That's a nine times greater risk of death for a 1.5 times increase in speed!

Young male drivers ages 15–24 are the most likely to be speeding at the time of fatal crashes. When you add alcohol/drug impairment and distracted driving to the mix — for any age group — speeding becomes an exponentially greater danger.

The consequences of speeding-related collisions include whiplash, traumatic brain injuries, fractures, spinal-cord trauma, and death. Property damage; fines, points on one's driving record, or loss of license; and being a defendant in a personal injury claim are other possibilities.

If you are injured due to a driver's negligence, call **Corradino & Papa**, our firm's experience and skill attorneys will achieve fair compensation for your injuries. ■

Your Biggest Accident Could Be Your Choice of Attorney

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the college experience

SHOULD BE A SAFE ONE

For many students, the college years are an exciting time when futures will be shaped, lifelong relationships will be established, and the transition to life on their own will occur. However, accidents and injuries may disrupt the journey sometimes through no fault of the student.

A college has a duty to provide a safe campus for students. It is responsible for properly maintaining the facilities, posting clear warnings of hazards, providing adequate security, following safety protocols, clamping down on underage drinking, and installing proper lighting, among other duties. If a college falls short in any of these areas and a student is injured as a result, the student may seek compensation for their injuries.

In some circumstances, more than one party may be held accountable. For example, if a student is hit by a car on campus, the driver of the car may be held liable for damages. However, if a stop sign was missing or a stoplight wasn't working, the school might be held responsible as well. Determining all potentially liable parties maximizes a student's chances of receiving fair compensation.

A student's first consideration following an injury should be appropriate medical attention. After that, they should contact campus police to file a report. The next step should be a prompt call to a personal injury attorney, who will help a student receive fair compensation and prevent them from possibly forfeiting other rights. Contact **Corradino & Papa**, there are time limits for filing a claim. Keep in mind that state colleges often tend to have shorter ones. ■



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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 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 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, **Corradino & Papa** will file a personal injury lawsuit with the court. ■

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CORRADINO & PAPA BIRTHDAYS IN August



Nicholas Schroter
AUGUST 26TH



Sahar Hashemi
AUGUST 26TH

SCHOOL BUSES, SAFETY, AND seat-belt exclusion

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) establishes safety standards for school buses but does not have enforcement authority. It was only in 2015 that the NHTSA deemed three-point seat belts necessary on large school buses (those weighing 10,000 pounds or more).

As of September 2022, eight states require seat belts, but most of them include a conspicuous loophole: If retrofitting costs cannot be accommodated by school budgets, no requirement.

Retrofitting would cost approximately \$10,000 (possibly more) per school bus. Some argue that more bang for the buck could be achieved with alternative safety measures, such as cameras on school buses to catch motorists who violate school-bus safety laws or providing safer routes for student pedestrians.

Others claim that “compartmentalization” negates the need for school-bus seat belts. Typically, school buses have seats with high backs that are filled with energy-absorbing materials, are placed close together (to form compartments), and are anchored securely. The padded seatbacks absorb the forward energy of a rider and more safely distribute the force of an impact.

The counterargument is what if the bus is hit from the side or rolls over? Kids would go flying in every direction, without padding. Compartmentalization also only works if kids are seated properly — not turned to the side or hanging halfway off the seat.

If brand-new buses are outfitted with seat belts, that’s the new (and more expensive) industry standard. School districts would be compelled to upgrade older buses, so they avoid the subject entirely.

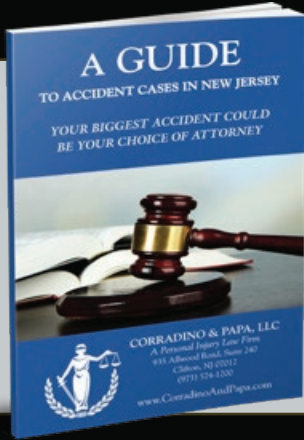
An average of six school-bus passengers per year are killed in school-bus crashes; most could have been saved by seat belts. Legislators/school districts argue that seat belts’ benefits do not justify their prohibitive costs. The debate continues. ■



August 2023 – Mark Your Calendars

Aug. 5 — WWE SummerSlam Aug. 7 — National Lighthouse Day Aug. 10 — Lazy Day Aug. 16 — Tell a Joke Day
Aug. 20 — National Radio Day Aug. 26 — National Dog Day Aug. 29 — Bat Night

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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.

Click Here To Find Out More About Our Practice Areas

**Personal Injury
Car Accident
Truck Accidents
Auto Accident
Slip and Falls
Dog Bite
Premises Liability
Work Accidents
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.

easy bruschetta chicken bake

Servings: 4; prep time: 15 minutes; cook time: 35 minutes

Easy bruschetta chicken is a healthy Italian-inspired, family-favorite meal. Perfect for busy weeknights with simple, fresh ingredients and loads of flavor.

Ingredients

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 3 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- salt to taste
- 4 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese

Bruschetta

- 4 or 5 Roma tomatoes, finely chopped
- 1/2 of a red onion, finely chopped
- 4 tablespoons shredded fresh basil
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- salt to taste

Topping

- Balsamic glaze for drizzling
- fresh basil leaves
- shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375°F.
2. *Make the bruschetta:* Chop the tomatoes into a small dice, about 1/4 to 1/2 inch, and add to a medium-size bowl. Next, chop the red onion and add it to the bowl. Toss with fresh basil and olive oil; season with salt to taste. Set aside.
3. Season the chicken breasts with Italian seasoning, garlic, and salt. Place the seasoned chicken in the bottom of a baking dish, and sprinkle with shredded mozzarella cheese. Next, layer the bruschetta over the mozzarella cheese. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes, or until the chicken breasts have reached a minimum temperature of 165°F.
4. Drizzle the balsamic glaze over the chicken and serve immediately.

Note: Choose firm Roma tomatoes for easier chopping. ■

