

Electronic Newsletter

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[The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck, LLC](#)

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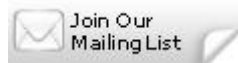


In This Issue

- The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck Wins Verdict for Driver
- NHTSA: 10% of Fatal Crashes Involved Distracted Driving
- CDC: Teen Drinking and Driving Down but Still a Problem
- Medical Malpractice Insurance Rates Continue to Drop
- Opinion: Focus on Patient Safety to Reduce Malpractice Cases
- Help Us Help Others
- Recall Central
- CDC: Thousands Exposed to Tainted Steroids
- Don't Drive Distracted!

The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck Wins Verdict for Driver

[Attorney Stephen M. Reck](#) recently won a verdict in a contested auto collision case at New London Superior Court. The crash happened at a Norwich intersection when the defendant driver turned left directly into the path of the plaintiff, who suffered a neck injury and headaches. The jury returned a verdict in favor of Attorney Reck's client, a now 27-year-old woman, for \$320,000 but reduced it by 20% for the partial fault of the plaintiff.



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NHTSA: 10% of Fatal Crashes Involved Distracted Driving



Distracted driving was cited as a contributing factor in nearly 10% of all fatal crashes in 2010, while that number nearly doubles (to 18%) for crashes where individuals were injured, according to a report from the

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The report studied all vehicle crashes in 2010, analyzing how influential distracted driving behaviors were in those crashes. NHTSA notes that the numbers reported for 2010 should not be compared to the data collected for 2009, as the data collection methods are different. NHTSA found that 416,000 people were injured that year in motor vehicle crashes that involved distracted drivers, while 3,092 people were killed in crashes where someone was exhibiting distracted driving behaviors. Cell phone usage was prevalent in both fatal and injurious crashes as it was related to 408 deaths (13% of total distracted driving fatalities) and 24,000 injuries (6% of those injured in distraction-related crashes). Read [more](#).

Recall Central

To read about recent recalls and product safety news from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, click [here](#).

Get the latest recall information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration [here](#).

The Dept. of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service regulate meat, poultry products and processed eggs. Check their recalls [here](#).

CDC: Teen Drinking and Driving Down but Still a Problem



The percentage of teens in high school (aged 16 or older) who drove when they had been drinking alcohol decreased by 54 percent between 1991 and 2011, according to a [Vital Signs](#) study recently

Click [here](#) for Food and Drug Administration recalls, market withdrawals and safety alerts.

For updates on the peanut products recall click [here](#).

released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, this risky behavior is still a major threat. In fact, nearly one million high school teens reportedly drove when they had been drinking alcohol in 2011. These teens were responsible for approximately 2.4 million episodes of drinking and driving a month, meaning that some engaged in the dangerous behavior more than once a month.

Medical Malpractice Insurance Rates Continue to Drop

[Medscape](#) reported, "undermining a talking point of organized medicine about tort reform, premiums for medical malpractice insurance for three bellwether specialties dropped for the fifth straight year in 2012, according to a new report published in Medical Liability Monitor (MLM)." According to the article, "the American Medical Association and other medical societies have argued that a broken medical liability system boosts insurance premiums for physicians." Medscape notes, however, that "rates for obstetrician/gynecologists, general internists, and general surgeons decreased on average by 1.7% in 2012, following declines of 0.2% in 2011, 0.5% in 2010, 2.5% in 2009, and 4% in 2008, according to MLM's annual rate survey."

Opinion: Focus on Patient Safety to Reduce Malpractice Cases

Mary Alice McLarty, president of the American Association for Justice, wrote in a [CNN op-ed](#) that "preventable medical errors are the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and cost our country \$29 billion a year," adding that while medical malpractice lawsuits are a symptom of the problem, the root of the problem is medical malpractice itself. Writing that "the civil justice system gives families of patients who have died or have been injured by medical negligence an avenue to seek accountability," McLarty argues that proposals for medical malpractice reform are misguided because they only strip away patients' rights and remove accountability. She argues that the most effective way to address the medical malpractice crisis is to focus on patient safety efforts.

Help Us Help Others

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recommend [us online to prospective clients](#). Thanks so much for your help.

About Our Firm



At [The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck](#), justice is our mission. Our firm is well known and well respected for its ability to handle personal injury, wrongful death, and professional malpractice cases in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Call today or visit us on the web at www.stephenreck.com.

The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck, LLC

Proud to support the [North Stonington Education Foundation](#), [Little League Baseball](#), [Children International](#), [Heifer International](#), the [Avalonia Land Conservancy](#), and the [Conn. Chapter of the Special Olympics](#).

*** Advertising Material ***

CDC: Thousands Exposed to Tainted Steroids

Federal officials have linked a meningitis outbreak to a contaminated methylprednisolone acetate injection produced by the New England Compounding Center (NECC) in Framingham, MA. The NECC issued a statement saying it is "cooperating with probes" underway by the both the FDA and the CDC. According to the CDC, the NECC shipped the potentially tainted injections to "facilities in California; Connecticut; Florida; Georgia; Idaho; Illinois; Indiana; Maryland; Michigan; Minnesota; North Carolina; New Hampshire; New Jersey; Nevada; New York; Ohio; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Carolina; Tennessee; Virginia; Texas; and West Virginia." To date, 23 people have died and there are at least 285 cases in 16 states.

Don't Drive Distracted!

It Kills



KidsAgainstDistractedDriving.com

Proudly Serving Connecticut and Rhode Island

The trial attorneys at The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck, LLC represent individuals in all types of personal injury cases throughout the state of Connecticut and the state of Rhode Island, including, in Connecticut: New London County, New Haven County, Middlesex County, Hartford County, Tolland County, and Windham County; and in Rhode Island: Bristol County, Kent County, Newport County, Providence County, and Washington County.

Referrals Welcome

Remember we are here if you need a referral to an attorney in a different area of law.

