



A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Summer 2015

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**Serious Lawyers
for Serious
Injuries**

Summer is here. Finally! We hope all of our friends have a fun and safe summer season. In this edition, we have included some vehicle safety articles. We hope they help keep you and your loved ones safe as you enjoy all the things this wonderful season has to offer. We also included some recent accomplishments achieved by StolzenbergCortelli LLP attorneys. There are some personal notes about our friends and family as well. Lastly, we have included a new and amazing recipe. Enjoy!



If there weren't already enough reasons not to text and drive, here's another: A new study from Expedia shows texting while driving is the leading cause of road rage. Twenty-six percent of the 1,000 people surveyed said drivers who had their eyes on their phone, and not the road, were the most irritating according

to Expedia. Of course, texting while driving isn't just annoying. In 2011 the number of distracted driving deaths rose to 3,331, a 1.92-percent increase. By contrast, the number of overall traffic fatalities on U.S. roads fell from 32,885 in 2010 to 32,367 in 2011, a 1.5-percent decrease, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

StolzenbergCortelli, LLP A Source For All Your Legal Needs

We have the know-how, experience and resources to represent anyone who suffers a serious injury in an accident. However, we also have close connections with attorneys in other legal fields that can help with any legal issues you may have. If you have any legal issues, please call us and we would be happy to refer you to an attorney near you that can assist you competently and expeditiously. Some of the most common cases include:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Criminal Matters | Divorces/Child Support | Commercial Transactions |
| Workers Compensation | Wills and Estate Planning | Land Use, Planning and Zoning |
| Immigration | Employment law | |
| Real Estate | | |

A REFERRAL FROM YOU IS OUR HIGHEST COMPLIMENT

A referral from our valued clients, friends, family and fellow attorneys is the highest compliment we can receive. If you know of someone who can benefit from our services at StolzenbergCortelli, LLP, please let us know. Call Us Today.

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Recent Settlements

\$2.05 Million Settlement – Mother of Two Struck and Killed by Motorist

StolzenbergCortelli LLP recently resolved a heart breaking wrongful death action. The mother of two was struck and killed, while she crossed a roadway. We were able to locate a video capturing the events leading up to the accident by way of a video surveillance system setup across the street in a neighboring commercial establishment. The video, when analyzed by our expert, confirmed our theory of how this otherwise unwitnessed accident occurred and was helpful in resolving the matter and putting the legal part of this horrific tragedy to rest so that the family could start to move forward in their lives.

\$525,000 for a Teamster Injured When the Trailer upon which He was Standing Collapsed

Our client was a teamster, working at a concrete plant in Westchester, when he was seriously injured. At the time, he was standing on a trailer, which is colloquially known as a “low boy”, when the wooden slats upon which he was standing, collapsed. He injured his knee and he ultimately had to undergo a total knee replacement. Many defenses were raised during the course of this litigation, including that he never fell, that he should not have been standing on the lowboy (even though part of his job according to our client’s boss was to sweep off the trailers in the yard), and that his knee injury was pre-existing. Defendants maintained that they were never going to pay on this case throughout the pendency of the action. However, in the weeks prior to when the trial was about to start, defendants caved and after many long and intense hours of negotiating, we were able to convince them to offer \$525,000 to settle this matter! 

Why We Crash

The weather is clear and dry. The road is straight and level. The driver is young, a commuter heading home from work, and is inattentive or following too closely. The car is an SUV. The day is a Friday.



That’s one of the most common profiles of a motorist involved in the more than 107,000 crashes in the Lower Hudson Valley from Aug. 1, 2011, to July 31, 2014, an analysis of crash data by The Journal News shows.

“After work we’re eager to get our leisure activity underway,” said Robert Sinclair, the New York spokesman for AAA. “Going to work we take our time; leaving work is a whole different state of mind.”

Most accidents occur along a stretch of road with no traffic control as drivers are proceeding straight ahead. In a quarter of the cases, it’s a rear-end collision. Nearly half the time a sport-utility vehicle is involved.

Among the 188 fatal crashes in the lower Hudson Valley, 50, or around 27 percent, involved pedestrians. Motorcycles were involved in 17 percent of fatalities.

More than 20 percent of vehicles involved in crashes were operated by 20-something-year-olds, though the latest state Department of Motor Vehicles data show they represent roughly 18 percent of registered drivers in the Lower Hudson Valley. In contrast, older drivers appeared to be involved in fewer crashes. About 8 percent of crash vehicles had operators older than 69 even though they account for 12 percent of registered drivers in the region.

Crash statistics

16% occur at a traffic signal, 7% at a stop sign and 5% in a no-passing zone.

15% involved drivers stopped in traffic, 14% slowed or stopped at the time.

Commercial traffic accounted for only 1% of all crashes

Skies were cloudy in 20% of crashes, raining in 11% and snowing in 3%

Roads were wet in 17% of crashes and had snow and ice in 5%

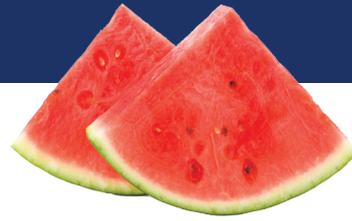
Inattentive driving and following too closely account for 35% of crashes, more than the four other top factors — failure to yield, unsafe speed, slippery pavement and unsafe backing — combined. So take it easy and drive carefully! 

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August Fun Facts

August is known for many things, including the dog days of summer, National Watermelon Day (Aug. 3) and National Smile Week (Aug. 5-11). But there are many other fun facts associated with summer's last full month.

August is named after Augustus Caesar, founder and the first emperor of the Roman Empire, who was posthumously adopted by his maternal great-uncle Gaius Julius Caesar.

In the early Roman calendar, August was actually the sixth month of the year. It was originally 30 days in length, but an extra day was added so that it would equal the number of days in July, which was named after Julius Caesar.

August has two birthstones: peridot and sardonyx. Peridot is among the oldest known gemstones and is green in color. Sardonyx, which is lesser-known, is a white- and brown-banded gemstone once believed to have mystical powers.

The official flower for August is the gladiolus. These vertical-growing flowers were named from the Latin "gladius," meaning a sword.

Fans of Elvis Presley mourn each Aug. 16th, the day the famed singer died in 1977.

On Aug. 24th in 79 A.D., the volcano Mount Vesuvius erupted, destroying the city of Pompeii and others.

People born in August fall under the sun zodiac signs of Leo and Virgo. Leos are known to be dramatic, creative and outgoing. Virgos have acute attention to detail and are the people most likely to dedicate themselves to serving. They also are loyal, hardworking and analytical.

The month of August is often referred to as the "dog days of summer" but not because of pet pooches. It has to do with the star Sirius, also known as the dog star, which rose at the same time as sunrise during the month of August in ancient Roman times.

Some famous people born in August include Martha Stewart, Martin Sheen, Jeff Gordon, Deion Sanders and Halle Berry. 

Emily's Egg- Free Cupcake Recipe

It doesn't get any easier than two-ingredient cupcakes! Especially for those family members and friends with egg allergies!

INGREDIENTS

- Box Betty Crocker™ yellow cake mix
- One can (12 oz) carbonated beverage of choice (we prefer Sprite)

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Place paper baking cup in each of 24 regular-size muffin cups.
2. In large bowl, beat dry cake mix and carbonated beverage with electric mixer on low speed 1 minute, then on medium speed 2 minutes, scraping side of bowl. Divide batter among cups.
3. Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes; remove to cooling rack to cool completely, about 1 hour.
4. Top with icing and sprinkles. 



Emily Cortelli is allergic to eggs and is always looking for a fun, tasty and egg free recipe!

August, 2015 Daily Holidays, Special and Wacky Days:

- 1 National Mustard Day
- 2 Friendship Day
- 4 U.S. Coast Guard Day
- 9 Book Lover's Day
- 10 Lazy Day
- 11 Son and Daughter Day
- 12 Middle Child's Day
- 13 Left Hander's Day
- 15 Relaxation Day - now this one's for me!
- 16 National Tell a Joke Day – Did you hear the one about the lawyer?
- 21 Senior Citizen's Day
- 22 Be an Angel Day
- 25 Kiss and Make Up Day
- 26 National Dog Day
- 26 Women's Equality Day
- 30 Frankenstein Day

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StolzenbergCortelli LLP paralegals Isabel DeAngelo (left) and Carmen Contreras (right).

Disclaimer: StolzenbergCortelli LLP represents plaintiffs in all types of personal injury claims in New York. We are serious lawyers for serious cases. Attorney advertising. Prior results do not guarantee future performance.

Recent Happenings in the StolzenbergCortelli Family



On May 9, 2015, Rachel, Howie's oldest daughter, graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder, with a bachelor of arts degree. We are so proud of her and we know she will do well in this next phase of her life.



On June 11, 2015, Howard Stolzenberg and Terrence Cortelli attended and were a sponsor of the 2015 Bert Saperstein Communication Scholarship Fund Golf Outing. The Outing is part of a charity fund that generously awards scholarships to deserving college students who are in need of financial assistance to pursue their careers in communications. Howie and Terry were happy to support such a worthwhile cause.

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