



## A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY


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**Serious Lawyers  
for Serious  
Injuries**

## A Note from StolzenbergCortelli, LLP



one another! This year we were fortunate enough to be able to not only sponsor it but attend it as well. We gave out multiple goodies and even had some raffles including a 32' Flat screen Television! To see more pictures of how we spent our weekend, please visit our Facebook page today! 


This weekend StolzenbergCortelli, LLP sponsored a Hispanic Heritage Festival in Kensico Dam located in Valhalla, NY to which thousands of multicultural people attended. The atmosphere was phenomenal – we were surrounded by great music, great food, and great people! Every year El Centro Hispano, a non-profit organization that helps the Latin community in many ways, organizes this festival for all kinds of businesses to come out and support



## Una Nota de StolzenbergCortelli, LLP



Este fin de semana StolzenbergCortelli, LLP patrocinó el Festival de Herencia Hispana en Kensico Dam, ubicado en Valhalla, NY, al cual asistieron miles de personas de diferentes paises y culturas. El ambiente estuvo fenomenal, ¡estuvimos rodeados de buena música, buena comida y gente maravillosa! Cada año, El Centro Hispano, una organización sin fines de lucro que ayuda a la comunidad latina de muchas maneras, organiza este festival para que la comunidad hispana conozca a diferentes empresas y para que se ayuden mutuamente. Este año tuvimos la suerte de no tan solo poder patrocinarlo pero tambien de asistirlo.

¡Entregamos múltiples regalos e incluso tuvimos algunos sorteos incluyendo un televisor de pantalla plana de 32 pulgadas! Para ver más fotos de cómo pasamos este fin de semana, ¡visite nuestra página de Facebook hoy! 



### August 2018 Important Dates

<b>August 1</b>	National Night Out
<b>August 3</b>	National Beer Day
<b>August 8</b>	International Cat Day
<b>August 13</b>	National Left Handers' Day
<b>August 19</b>	National Aviation Day
<b>August 25</b>	National Banana Split Day
<b>August 26</b>	Dog Appreciation Day
<b>August 26</b>	Women's Equality Day

### 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

- \$165,000 — trip and fall down stairs — broken ankle — defendant claimed the defect in stairs was obvious and that plaintiff should have been more careful
- \$115,000 — bicyclist hit by car — fracture leg — defendant car driver claimed bicyclist ran red light — bicyclist did not recall accident but swore that he always stopped at red light and it must have been driver that disregarded traffic control device
- \$105,000 — motor vehicle accident — injured cab driver — neck, back, shoulder
- \$90,000 — motor vehicle accident — passenger in a two car accident — fractured clavicle
- \$50,000 — motor vehicle accident — injured neck, back and shoulder — no surgery

## The Anatomy of a Trip & Fall Down a Pre-War NYC Staircase (or What Happened When a Singer Fell Down Some Stairs)


Two years ago, we received a call from a person who said she tripped and fell down a set of stairs in a building located on the Eastside of Manhattan. The woman, a professional cabaret singer, fractured her ankle and was unable to perform for some time. She complained that the stairs were dangerous and requested our help.

Upon receiving the call, we investigated the claim. We hired an engineer to examine the stairs to determine whether the stairs were structurally sound. We also spent numerous hours combing through the New York City Building Department files, looking for any records that would prove helpful in our investigation. This due diligence, it would turn out, would save the day when it came to helping our client resolve her case favorably.



Our engineer, upon concluding his investigation, noted that the stair where our client fell was a "short" step meaning it was a different height than the preceding steps. This creates a notoriously dangerous situation because it interrupts a person's unconscious rhythm when trying to navigate a set of stairs. This presents a well-known tripping hazard. It also constituted a building code violation. With that information, we sued.

In defending the case, the lawyer for the landlord claimed that the stairs were built in the 1920's and thus preceded the enactment of the New York City's first Building Code of 1938. The defendant argued that because no Code existed at the time the stairs were constructed, any purported defect would have been "grandfathered in" and, as defendant would argue, there was no basis for the lawsuit. But, that's where the defendant was wrong. When initially investigating the case, we had learned that the stairs in question were actually constructed in 1939, which post-dated the enactment of the Code. In fact, we were able to locate the original design drawings for the actual stairs in question and the original plans did not call for a short step.

Thus, we were able to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the stairs were built post Code and that although the stairs were initially designed and constructed in 1939 without a short step, and that the short step must have been introduced during a subsequent renovation, thus violating the Code. Once we presented the original plans to the defendant, they agreed to settle for a favorable amount. 

## 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. 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.

Contact us today for a free-no obligation consultation! 



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# Grilling Your Way Through Summer – Chicken Pineapple Sliders

## Ingredients

- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 tablespoon cider vinegar
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- 3 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves – cut in half
- 6 pineapple rings
- 2 tablespoons teriyaki sauce
- 6 red onion slices
- 6 rinsed & drained lettuce leaves
- 6 Hawaiian Bread Rolls – Split & Toasted



## Instructions

1. Whisk together the lemon juice, lime juice, cider vinegar, salt and pepper in a large glass or ceramic bowl. Add the chicken and toss to evenly coat. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and marinate in the refrigerator for 1 hour.
2. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, and lightly oil the grate.
3. Remove the chicken from the marinade and shake off excess. Discard the remaining marinade. Grill the chicken for 5 to 7 minutes each side, or until juices run clear when chicken is pierced with a fork. Grill pineapple for 2 to 3 minutes per side, or until heated through and grill marks appear.
4. Spread 1 teaspoon teriyaki sauce on the bottom half of a toasted roll; next add a lettuce leaf, a piece of chicken, a pineapple round, and an onion slice. Replace the top bun and repeat with the remaining rolls. 

# Auto Accidents and Traumatic Brain Injuries



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, auto accidents are the third-leading cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) in the United States (falls rank #1). TBIs can range from mild concussions that clear up relatively quickly, to permanently disabling injuries and/or premature death.

Direct blows to the head (e.g., windshield, steering wheel, other wreckage) and whiplash—a sudden back-and-forth jerking of the neck and head—cause the brain to slam against the hard interior of the skull, leading to TBIs. TBIs can also result from objects that penetrate the skull.

As if trauma to the brain wasn't enough, there may also be bleeding and swelling, which could necessitate surgery. Nerve damage is another common byproduct of TBIs.

The brain has four lobes: frontal, temporal, parietal, and occipital. Each is associated with different brain functions. The nature of a TBI may vary from person to person, depending on which lobe(s) was injured. TBIs can result in impaired motor skills and reasoning; diminished ability to process sensory information; memory loss; changes in personality; and compromised language skills and speech perception, among other conditions.

Reduce your risk of incurring an auto accident-related TBI:

- Always wear your seatbelt.
- Make sure your young child is properly secured in a child-safety seat.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs (legal or illegal).
- Do not text and drive.

If you suffer a TBI due to another driver's negligence, contact us today to protect your rights. 

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StolzenbergCortelli LLP

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.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**\*\* Ms. Ada C. \*\***  
**is the Winner**  
**of the**  
**32" LED**  
**Plasma TV!**

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