



A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Winter 2014

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**Serious Lawyers
for Serious Injuries**

Happy Holidays!

With 2014 coming to a close, all of us at our firm wanted to take a moment to wish you and yours the very best this holiday season, and it is our sincere hope as well that you have a happy and healthy new year. We are truly gratified to have had the opportunity to help and serve so many in our community, and feel blessed by the trust you have placed in us. If you ever need any help, for anything, we are a simple call away. Please call us and let us help you.



Isabel's Holiday Stuffed Baked Potato Skins

INGREDIENTS

- 20 russet potatoes
- 2 TBSP extra virgin olive oil
- 1 cup of shredded pepper jack cheese
- ½ cup of shredded pepper jack cheese (keep separate from the full cup)



DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Wash the potatoes and then pierce them with a fork. Brush each one with olive oil and place on a baking sheet with at least a half inch in between each potato; they should not be touching. Bake the potatoes, uncovered, for 50-55 minutes or until tender. Let the potatoes cool until they are able to be handled.

Cut each potato in half and using a spoon scoop out the majority of the inside of the potato into a large mixing bowl. Place the potato skins back onto the baking sheet. Mash the potato innards that are in the large mixing bowl. Once they are fully mashed, stir in the 1 cup of pepper jack cheese, sour cream, salt, and pepper. Stuff each potato skin with the mixture and sprinkle the top of each stuffed potato with cheese, and garnish with paprika. Return to the oven and bake at 400 degrees for 15-20 minutes or until the top of the potato skins have begun to brown. Serve warm and enjoy! 

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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“True, we [lawyers] build no bridges. We raise no towers. We construct no engines. We paint no pictures—unless as amateurs for our own principal amusement. There is little of all that we do which the eye of man can see. But we smooth out difficulties; we relieve stress; we correct mistakes; we take up other men’s burdens and by our efforts we make possible the peaceful life of men in a peaceful state.” – John W. Davis



Construction Site Safety

Over the years, we have represented so many people who have been injured while working at construction sites because they were not properly trained and/or were not given the proper safety devices to protect them from the dangers they were exposed to at their jobs. Hopefully, these tips, and the tips that will follow in future newsletters will help:

Some safety tips every construction worker should know:

Fall Protection – Falls kill more than 300 construction workers every year and hurt thousands. Deadly falls on the job are from unprotected roof edges, roof and floor openings, scaffolds, ladders, structural steel, leading edges, open shafts and more. When fall protection is needed, make sure that you have the right equipment and know how it works.

Guard rails and safety nets are the best protection because they remove the risk of fall from the equation. If railing and netting are not suitable, then the employer must provide personal protective equipment. Personal protective equipment includes fall restraint systems (prevents person reaching the fall risk) and personal fall arrest systems (minimizes injury in the event of a fall). You will need to wear a full-body harness with any of these systems.

What is a full body harness? A full-body harness has straps around your trunk and thigh, with one or more D-rings in the back to attach the harness to other parts of the system. If you fall, the harness will spread the stopping force over your thighs, pelvis, chest and shoulders. Use only a full body harness – never a chest harness – for fall protection. Harnesses can be used with an anchorage, a lanyard, a vertical or horizontal lifeline, a fall arrester or a shock absorber. A fall arrest system should not let you free fall more than 6 feet.

Training – The employer must fit and train each worker for the equipment used. Not knowing how to use the equipment is almost like not having the equipment at all. A competent person (someone who is trained in safety) must train workers at risk of falling about the fall hazards and the limitations in using the chosen equipment. Training must cover all that can happen, such as hanging in a harness and rescue. The trainer should tell workers and workers should ask about medical conditions that can be made worse by a fall in a harness. 

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StolzenbergCortelli LLP Settles Trip Over Nail Case for \$1.1 Million



Last month, Terrence and Howard settled a trip and fall case for \$1,100,000. In this case, our client was a cleaning lady who was hired to clean the newsroom of the Wall Street Journal. The Journal had just renovated the space and in doing so installed new carpeting while the construction was ongoing. To protect the carpeting, the contractors covered it with plastic and used masonry nails to affix the plastic to the floor. Hundreds of nails were used to affix the plastic throughout the newsroom floor. Unfortunately, the contractors were careless and failed to remove all of the nails. Our client tripped over one of these nails and injured her back. She never returned to work. For four years, the contractors denied they installed the nail, until we tracked down the architect and he told us he just happened to take photos of the contractors installing the nails. Not all cases have such Perry Mason moments, but this one did. The defendants had no choice but to settle. 



When Your World Goes Topsy-Turvy

Whether a large chain store or a local mom-and-pop operation, any business that invites the public onto its premises is obligated to keep customers reasonably safe and out of harm's way. Failure to do so may be grounds for an injury claim against the store.

Slip-and-fall accidents occur frequently at stores across the nation and even more so during the busy holiday season. Slip-and-falls can occur in a number of ways. An accumulation of snow and ice at the entryway, or melted snow tracked into the store may prove treacherous. A rug or floor mat may bunch up and trip someone. Perhaps some wayward grapes in the produce section have escaped to the floor, or water has trickled onto the floor from a leaky pipe. Poor lighting can conceal dangers otherwise noticeable. Displays may be haphazardly placed, and newly waxed floors might send someone tumbling.

The owner of the store may be held liable for slip-and-fall injuries if he or she created the situation—e.g., an exceptionally slippery floor or awkwardly positioned display. A store may also be liable if it knew of a potentially dangerous condition, even if it didn't create it, but failed to take the proper action to remedy it in a reasonable amount of time.

Customers have an expectation upon them, too. Should a reasonably careful customer have noticed the unsafe condition and avoided it?

If you know someone who suffered a slip and fall injury at a store due to negligence, do not hesitate to have them call StolzenbergCortelli LLP to learn more about their legal rights. 

Upcoming Important Dates

December 7 –
National Pearl Harbor
Remembrance Day

December 17 –
First Day of Hanukkah
(begins at sundown the
evening before)

December 21 –
First Day of Winter

December 25 –
Christmas

December 26 –
Kwanzaa Begins

December 31 –
New Year's Eve

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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.

StolzenbergCortelli, LLP

A Source For All Your Legal Needs

We can represent anyone who suffers 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
Workers Compensation
Immigration
Real Estate
Divorces/Child Support

Wills and Estate Planning
Employment law
Commercial Transactions
Land Use, Planning and Zoning

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