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## Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 2007

# The Boyk Bulletin

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### We Have Six Offices to Serve You

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Findlay, Ohio 45840

## Revamped newsletter will offer legal tips and information

You haven't seen us in your mailboxes in a while, but we're back! Our new and improved newsletter will feature legal news and tips, and maybe even a recipe or two. We hope to provide you with information that will protect your family and updates on the law that could improve your life.

In this issue, for example, we write about ways to keep your children safe from accidents happening in your own driveway. We also have an article that discusses how people can prevent whiplash, the most common injury resulting from a car accident. Another article talks about the Ohio Accident Book, which Chuck Boyk, Mike Bruno, and Dale Emch authored to help guide people through their injury cases.

As you may already know, Chuck Boyk has been in private practice for 23 years and has handled thousands of personal injury cases, ranging from small whiplash cases to wrongful death claims. He also handles worker's compensation claims and civil litigation.

Mike Bruno has also been

in practice for 23 years and has tried over 100 jury trials including death penalty and wrongful death cases. He also holds the highest rating achievable by an attorney, an AV rating by Martindale Hubbell and Board Certification by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

Attorney Dale Emch focuses his practice on personal injury, criminal and traffic cases. In addition to practicing law, he writes a column for the Toledo Blade called "Legal Briefs," in which he answers reader's legal questions. Dale also serves on the Lucas County Public Defender Commission and the Media Relations Committee for the Toledo Bar Association.

Our office has eight staff members to serve you and to answer any questions you may have. It is our goal to meet your needs by returning phone calls promptly and being available after hours. Chuck, Mike, and



Top to Bottom: Mike Bruno, Dale Emch, Chuck Boyk

Dale also make sure to explain all of your legal options, and then make a recommendation, so you can make an informed decision.

We hope you enjoy our improved newsletter. If you have any questions about this publication, or have ideas you would like to see included next month, please submit them in writing to Anneke at our downtown office:

520 Madison Ave  
Suite 655  
Toledo, Ohio 43604  
Or e-mail ideas to:

[boykadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:boykadvertising@gmail.com)

### Whiplash aggravated by improper use of head restraints

Though they're often taken lightly, whiplash injuries caused by rear-end collisions can lead to prolonged pain and treatment. Our attorneys have handled thousands of soft-tissue injury cases for clients who have had their heads snap forward and back after being struck in a rear-end collision. Most people rebound after a short-period of treatment, but others are left with pain that can last years or even a lifetime because of damaged nerves, disks, or ligaments.

straints rated good or acceptable. About one-third rated marginal, while the other third were rated poor.

*“Adjust head restraints so that they're at least as high as the top of the ears and 3 inches or less from the back of the head.”*

That's why we were pleased to see Consumers Report publish an article recently that examined how improvements in the design of head restraints might prevent or minimize whiplash injuries. The magazine cited a study of 175 vehicles by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety that concluded that only one-third of the front seats and head re-

straints rated good or acceptable. About one-third rated marginal, while the other third were rated poor. Apparently seats can be part of the problem. An engineer quoted in the article said that stiff seatbacks don't do enough to absorb the impact of

the back and shoulders, which can lead to injury.

Most of us probably never touch the head restraints after we buy a new car. That's a big mistake, though. To protect yourself, the magazine encouraged people to adjust their head restraints so that they're at least as high as the top of their ears and 3 inches or less from the back of their heads.

The government has recognized the role properly positioned head restraints can play in minimizing whiplash injuries. For vehicles built after Sept. 1, 2008, restraints will have to be set within 2.2 inches of a front-seat passenger's head. Consumers Union, the publisher of Consumer Reports, has urged that lawmakers make the requirements even more stringent so that it covers rear-seat head restraints.

### Attorney Dale Emch answers Blade reader's questions

Attorney Dale Emch writes a bi-weekly newspaper column called "Legal Briefs" for The Blade in which readers are invited to submit their legal questions.

or 520 Madison Ave., Suite 655, Toledo, OH 43604. He can't promise to answer every question, but he responds to as many as he can.



Dale Emch

Dale's column covers a variety of topics such as personal injury, estate planning, contract issues, and property rights.

"Legal Briefs" appears every Sunday in The Blade's Living section. By the way, if you're not a subscriber to The Blade, call 419-724-6300 to start delivery of the paper.

**A Note to Our Readers**  
Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC has created this newsletter for our clients, friends and colleagues to provide general and practical information. It is not intended for legal advice and should not be viewed as a solicitation. We hope you find this publication to be a helpful and valuable addition to your mail, however, if at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact our office at 1-800-637-8170 or email us at boykadvertising@gmail.com.

## FREE GIFT

The first **5 people** to submit a general legal question to **Attorney Dale Emch** for consideration in his *Toledo Blade* column "Legal Briefs" will receive a **FREE GIFT** from our office!

Please reference this ad and submit questions in writing to our downtown office:

520 Madison Ave., Suite 655  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

Or e-mail them to Dale at:  
**demch@charlesboyk-law.com**

### Order your free copy of The Ohio Accident Book

Thousands of accidents resulting in hundreds of injuries occur every day on Ohio's roadways. The consequences can be devastating for those who are injured. The health problems present the most obvious concern, but financial pain can linger long after the injuries heal.

That's why our attorneys here have written *The Ohio Accident Book*. The book serves as a guide for injured people trying to navigate the confusing and

complicated world of a personal injury claim. Insurance companies have one goal when dealing with an accident: settling the claim for as little money as possible regardless of whether the victim is fairly compensated.

The *Ohio Accident Book* outlines what to do in the unfortunate event of an accident. The book gives tips on how to maximize your recovery and points out crucial deadlines for injury cases. It also provides common sense ways not to get caught in

insurance company traps and lets you in on costly mistakes that could destroy your case. Find out the secrets of getting the best settlement from the insurance company and discover what insurance companies don't want you to know! The book also describes how to choose a personal injury lawyer and the advantages having representation brings.

**Order Your FREE Copy Today!**

**YOURS FREE!**  
*The Ohio Accident Book*



**Call Today**  
**1-800-479-8203**  
Use Code 8223  
Or online at  
[www.OhioAccidentBook.com](http://www.OhioAccidentBook.com)

## Keep kids safe this school year

The most tragic cases we handle at our office are those that involve the death of a child. That's why we join Kids and Cars, a non-profit consumer advocacy group, in its call for heightened safety measures that would help protect children from getting hit by vehicles backing out of driveways.

A recent national study by Kids and Cars showed that the number of child fatalities caused by vehicular "back-ups" has more than tripled in the last 10 years. According to the parent-run organization, as reported by the *Wall Street Journal*, 474 children have died since 2002 after being backed over by a vehicle, with an average of more than one child losing their life *per week*. In almost every occurrence, the parent was the person behind the wheel.

Since many of these types of accidents occur on private property, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does not have many sta-

tistics on non-traffic accidents involving children. Kids and Cars, along with other consumer-advocacy groups, are trying to bring this issue to the federal government in order to provide for more research on the subject. Kids and Cars states that the "data vastly underestimate the true magnitude of this public health and safety issue."



According to Kids and Cars, sport utility vehicles have been under scrutiny as the cause of many of these tragic accidents. Many SUVs have high bumpers and rear windows, making it nearly impossible for a driver to see a small child behind the car. The design in smaller, sedan-type cars includes higher trunks and smaller rear windows, creating a

huge blind spot as well.

Electronic detection devices are offered in newer vehicle models to alert the driver if there is an obstacle at the rear of the car, but many times this feature is only available with the purchase of an expensive navigation system, so that the navigation screen can work with a rear-view camera.

Many families decline the back-up sensor option when purchasing a new car because of the price.

Expensive sensors aren't the only way to keep kids safe. One idea to keep little ones away from the back of a car is to encourage the kids to stand in a safe, visible spot and have them wave goodbye. Always alert other adults to your departure and ask for their help in keeping children away from the car. Know where your kids are at all times, especially during these fall months, as children start their new school year.