

A quarterly newsletter for friends and clients of *Boteler, Richardson, Wolfe, Attorneys at Law*

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UTERINE AND OVARIAN CANCER LINKED TO FEMALE BEAUTY PRODUCTS

CHEMICAL HAIR STRAIGHTENERS/RELAXERS LINKED TO UTERINE AND OVARIAN CANCERS

Recently published scientific studies have found that women of color who regularly use chemical straightening or hair-relaxing products develop uterine and ovarian cancer at a disproportionately high rate compared to white women. Specifically, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reported a two to four-fold (greater than 100%) increased risk of endometrial/uterine and ovarian cancers in two separate publications. In both instances, NIH targeted the presence of chemicals called “Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals” (EDCs) as the offending agent in the products. EDCs are substances in the environment, food sources, personal care products, and manufactured products that interfere with the normal function of a body’s endocrine system. A female’s endocrine system includes her ovaries, thyroid, and adrenal glands. EDCs mimic estrogen and overload the body, leading to the formation of Uterine Fibroids (UF) and uterine and ovarian cancers. Alarmingly, the manufacturers of these products, including L’Oréal, Softsheen-Carson, Luster, ORS, Unilever, Godrej, and others, market the products (e.g., JustForMe®, OliveOil™, Dark & Lovely®, Motions®, etc.) without warning of these potentially deadly cancers.



If you or a loved one used hair straighteners more than five times a year and later developed uterine or ovarian cancer, you may have a valuable legal claim. BRW Lawyers can help. Call us at 251 433-7766 for a free consultation.

TALCUM POWDER LINKED TO OVARIAN CANCERS

Talcum powder is made from talc, a naturally occurring silicate mineral mined from rock deposits in the Earth’s crust. Manufacturers crush, dry and mill talc into a fine, soft, white powder that is used in a variety of industrial and cosmetic products. A study by the American Cancer Society lists talcum powder as a risk factor for ovarian cancer and mesothelioma. According to the International Journal of Gynecological Cancer, frequent talcum powder use on the female genital area increases the risk of cancer between 30–60%. The more often a woman uses it, the more likely she will experience cancer.



The cosmetic talcum powder product consumers recognize the most is Johnson & Johnson’s Baby Powder. Other talc powder products used for personal hygiene include: Johnson’s Baby Powder by Johnson & Johnson; Shower to Shower by Valeant Pharmaceuticals; and Baby Magic Baby Powder. In May 2020, Johnson & Johnson announced it would stop selling talc based baby powder in the United States and Canada.

If you or a loved one used talcum powder and later developed ovarian cancer or mesothelioma, you may have a valuable legal claim. BRW Lawyers can help. Call us at 251 433-7766 for a free consultation.

[See other current cases of interest on page two.]

BRW SUPPORTS AREA CHARITIES

At BRW we are very proud of our long history of supporting area organizations and charities that strive to make our community better. Below is information about area organizations and charities that we supported last quarter.

Family Promise offers temporary housing solutions to families with children who are experiencing homelessness. BRW attorney Knox Boteler has been on the Board of Directors and served as an officer for the Board on several occasions. BRW has supported this organization for over 15 years!

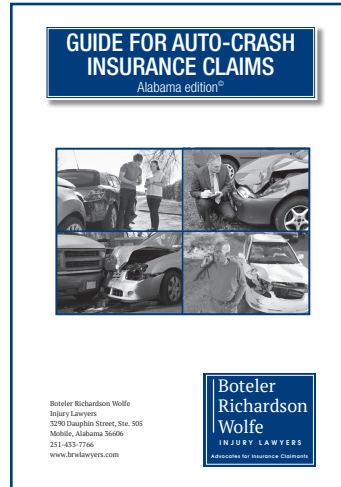
Prodissee Pantry has been providing emergency food and disaster assistance to Baldwin County families in need for 20 years. BRW attorney Mark Wolfe has served on the Board of Directors since 2010 including two terms as President of the Board.

Save-a-Stray is an all volunteer foster based rescue group dedicated to helping local dogs and cats in the Mobile area. BRW attorney Mat Richardson and his wife Pam are regular supporters of this organization and regularly foster animals.

Angie’s Dog House is a volunteer animal rescue organization servicing the Gulf Coast. Not only does this organization help rehome abandoned animals but is also well known for assisting animals with special medical needs.

Lions Club Tunnel Run 5K was held on Saturday, May 2, 2023. BRW has been a run sponsor for many years and BRW attorney serves on the Board of Directors for the Lions Club of Mobile Charity Foundation. The Lions Clubs are civic organizations that empower volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.

6.2 MILLION MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES PER YEAR!



The National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA) reports that in the United States there are about 6.2 million motor vehicle crashes per year. About 1/3 of those crashes will also involve some level of personal injury. Those injuries will result in average medical bills of \$4,000.00 and about two weeks of lost wages per incident. Almost every one of the 6.2 million crashes each year involves some type of insurance claim. Insurance claims and coverage after a crash can cause confusion and uncertainty. **There is no requirement for the insurance company to tell you how to coordinate coverage or how to best present your car crash insurance claim for full benefits!** This is why since 1994 the lawyers at BRW Injury Lawyers have been providing free information to the public about motor vehicle crash insurance claims. These publications have helped thousands of car crash victims understand their legal rights and explain the various insurance claims that may be available after a crash.

The **Guide for Auto-Crash Insurance Claims** is available to download free from the BRW Injury Lawyers web site brwlawyers.com It has important information about what to do at the accident scene, it explains the types of insurance coverage that may be available, it has important information about property damage and personal injury claims, it discusses how to give an effective recorded statement to the insurance adjuster and it even has a section about hiring a lawyer! Call us today to order a hard copy of this important publication to keep in your vehicle. 251 433-7766.

BRW OTHER CASES AND CLAIMS

In addition to handling individual personal injury claims such as car crash injuries, slip & fall injuries, defective product injuries and work place injuries, the lawyers at BRW are currently assisting with the following claims:

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AT RISK

The herbicide Paraquat, commonly sold under the name Gramoxone, has been linked to Parkinson's disease. While over thirty-two (32) countries have entirely banned the use of this herbicide, use of this product in the United States has increased significantly in recent years. Farmworkers, herbicide applicators, and other individuals with Parkinson's disease caused by Paraquat exposure are eligible to seek compensation. If you or someone you know has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease after significant exposure to Paraquat, contact us to discuss your legal options.

ACETAMINOPHEN/TYLENOL USE DURING PREGNANCY LINKED TO AUTISM

In 2019 a study funded by the National Institute of Health found that exposure to acetaminophen during pregnancy increased a child's risk for autism spectrum disorder up to three times. These findings were subsequently corroborated in other studies which have concluded that fetal exposure to acetaminophen is associated with a significant increased risk of childhood autism with a direct correlation to dosage amounts and diagnoses. Litigation of these cases is just underway and the makers of acetaminophen products such as Tylenol are highly contesting the medical causation issues. If you believe your child's autism diagnosis may be related to acetaminophen usage during pregnancy, please call BRW and we can explain how to open your potential claim.

AQUEOUS FILM-FORMING FOAM (AFFF) IS DANGEROUS TO FIREFIGHTERS

AFFF is a firefighting foam used by both military and civilian firefighters for many years. AFFF contains a high level of poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) within the foam. PFAS has been linked to several cancers and thyroid disease. Litigation is currently ongoing with allegations that manufacturers of AFFF, such as DuPont and 3M, were aware as early as the 1990s of the dangers of PFAS in the foam and they failed to warn firefighters or try to eliminate or reduce exposure. PFAS exposure has been linked testicular, kidney, prostate, liver, pancreatic, bladder and thyroid cancer. It's also been linked to several thyroid diseases including hypothyroidism, Graves and Hashimoto. If you or a loved one was regularly exposed to AFFF while working as a firefighter or first responder, please call BRW for more claim information.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Thousands of Alabama workers are hurt on the job every year. Alabama law is very specific regarding the types and amounts of damages workers are entitled to in the event of an on the job injury. Dealing with doctors, insurance claim managers and adjusters can be confusing for injured workers. Let the lawyers at BRW explain the process to you in a way that is easy to understand. We have been handling workers' compensation cases for over 25 years. We know the law and will help you recover all the benefits available to you.



You can help us help others in our community by liking and sharing the posts from the BR&W facebook page. We use our facebook page to alert consumers about important information or issues that can help or protect their families such as product recalls and to promote local civic events and fund raiser events for area non-profit organizations. If you see one of our posts, please share it with your facebook friends!