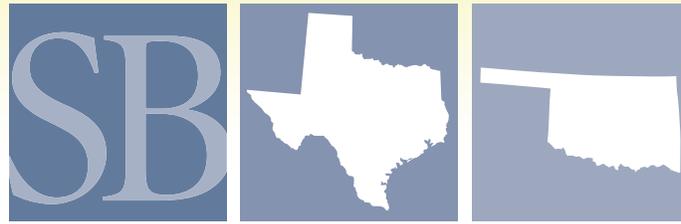




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So, What's My Injury Case Really Worth?

The value of a personal injury case that goes to trial is determined by the jury. They are given evidence to evaluate and a list of items they may take into consideration before making their decision.

When settling a case prior to trial, various factors play a role in establishing the worth of a case. A good personal injury attorney makes their evaluation based upon all the doctor's reports, present and future medical bills, and a comprehensive discussion with your doctor. Information covered should include the invasiveness of, pain associated with, and duration of treatment; future pain and discomfort; and loss of enjoyment of life. Employment considerations include lost wages and future lost wages.

Insurance companies influence the landscape, too. They keep track of cases nationwide and can crunch the numbers. They know which doctors are "overtreaters" whose bills can more easily be challenged at trial, and which doctors make poor or excellent witnesses.

Insurance companies keep tabs on attorneys who are willing to go to trial, and those who settle in every circumstance. They also know which attorneys have expertise in a specific area of law, and those who are general practitioners. Insurance companies lick their chops when an attorney sends most of his/her clients to the same doctor, which they may exploit at trial by insinuating that the doctor is shading their testimony to favor the attorney.

There is no magic formula in determining the value of a personal injury case, but hiring the right personal injury attorney can go a long way toward winning your case or achieving a fair settlement. •

July 2015 News



How to Prepare for Young Drivers on the Road during Back-to-School Season

Back-to-school season is in full swing, and that means high school juniors and seniors will be starting driver's ed and venturing out onto local roads.

Let's face it; getting a driver's license is one of the biggest milestones in a teenager's young adult life. It means freedom, independence, and responsibility. The best and safest drivers on the road all have years of driving experience, something that, by nature, a teenager can't have. As a result, it is young drivers who make the most mistakes and unintentionally endanger the most lives on the road.



In fact, driving teens (ages 16-19) are 3 times as likely to be involved in a fatal crash than any other age group. Despite being only 14% of the population, teen drivers are involved in 30% of the costs of all motor vehicle injuries. Also, teens are even more likely to cause a crash if they are driving with teen passengers or if it's their first month with their licenses. Plus, we all know how easily teens are distracted in the smartphone age!

This should all make sense, really – without driving experience, young drivers are more likely to misjudge situations, forget important traffic laws, and miscalculate the size and speed of their cars.

Thankfully, there are steps you can take to ensure that you and your loved ones are properly taken care of in the event of an unfortunate, unavoidable accident. Aside from the fundamentals (wear your seatbelt, drive the speed limit, be alert, and drive defensively), you should also make sure that you have full Uninsured Motorist Coverage, especially with the sheer amount of uninsured drivers on the road.

Bottom line – should an accident happen with an uninsured driver, you will need a comprehensive uninsured motorist plan from your insurance company (not just the bare minimum) to recover fully. Trust us, it's easier to ask these questions beforehand than after the fact. •

Don't Like Dealing with Ticket Agents at the Airport? You Soon May be in Luck

At the recent Paris Air Show, robots were unveiled that would potentially replace human check-in agents and immigration officers at airports. The robots would scan passengers' faces, encrypt and print the images on boarding passes, and share the images with other computers around the airport. Once a traveller is at the gate, a human gate agent would check the scan to make sure the correct person was actually getting on the plane. It's estimated that a single robot could do the work of five human ticket agents. •





Booker's Best Bites

Honey's Banana Pudding

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package of instant vanilla pudding
- 1 small container of extra creamy cool whip
- 1 can of eagle brand milk
- 1 ½ cups of 2% milk
- 4/5 bananas
- 1 box of vanilla wafers

DIRECTIONS

- Mix the pudding, eagle brand milk, 1 ½ cups of milk, and ¾ tubs of cool whip. Place in freezer to set about 5-7 minutes.
- Line the bottom of the casserole dish with vanilla wafers and place sliced bananas on top. When the pudding mixture has set pour over top of wafer and bananas. Repeat the layering process until all ingredients are gone.
- Place the left over cool whip over the top and crumble a few wafers over the top for decoration. •



July 2015 – Important Dates

July 1
Canada Day

July 4
Independence Day

July 14
Bastille Day

July 26
Parents' Day

The Wright Stuff

On the morning of December 17, 1903, just outside Kitty Hawk, N.C., aviation history was made with the first successful manned, self-propelled flight of an airplane. The Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, of Dayton, Ohio, were the creators and pilots of the *Flyer*. (Incidentally, that's why the University of Dayton's nickname is the "Flyers.")

The first trip, piloted by Orville, was brief—12 seconds and 120 feet—but in a matter of two years, the brothers were performing complex aerial maneuvers and staying aloft for nearly 40 minutes. There were a total of four runs that historic day. Wilbur one-upped his little brother with a final flight of 59 seconds, covering 852 feet.

Research and development were key components in the Wright brothers' success. Former owners of a bicycle shop in Dayton, the Wright brothers were exceedingly gifted in technical ability. They pored over aeronautical books, picked the brains of civil engineers, and then began to build kites, which eventually graduated to gliders. Through studious observance of birds in flight, they developed the concept of wing warping: controlling a plane by raising or lowering flaps in the wingtips to turn (bank), or to ascend and descend.

Once they installed a lightweight motor, history was theirs for the taking. Orville and Wilbur decided on Kitty Hawk, N.C., for their glider testing and first airplane flight for three reasons: regular winds, hills, and sand (for soft landings).

The Wright brothers made history, some of which is available to us today. The *Flyer* is on permanent display at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. •





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Reminder About Our Firm's Communication Policy

Our promise to you is that while we are working on your case, we don't take inbound phone calls, faxes or emails. Steven Booker takes no inbound unscheduled phone calls whatsoever. It makes him much more productive and helps get your case resolved faster. You can always call the office at 940-569-4000, and schedule an in-person or phone appointment, usually within 24-48 hours. This is a lot better than the endless game of "phone tag" played by most businesses today. Remember, too, that email is "quick," but is checked no more than twice a day. Replies are then scheduled into the calendar. So if it's really important, don't email—please call the office. Thank you.

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

The Booker Law Firm participated in the Relay for Life in May. In doing this, we had a drawing for a family pack of water park tickets for our newly facilitated "Boomtown Bay" waterpark here in Burkburnett. All proceeds were donated to the Relay for Life. We're so excited to announce, Rachel Lewis won the tickets!! And what makes it more exciting is that she paid it forward by giving them to a coworker who has 4 children to share in the fun!! Shown below is a picture of Steven with Rachel and then these 4 little cuties are the Rumpfelt children enjoying their day at Boomtown Bay! We would like to give a HUGE thanks to all those who helped us out! Thanks again!!

