



CHANEY LAW FIRM

Issue #1

July 2013

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The 7th Amendment

Celebrate freedom and your 7th Amendment rights

Happy 4th of July! This month marks our country's 237th birthday. This is a great time to celebrate summer with family and friends and enjoy the outdoors in our beautiful state. The holiday also offers a chance to slow down and appreciate the freedoms upon which our country was founded.

The 7th Amendment to the Constitution grants the right to a trial by jury to all citizens, and this important guarantee is what allows the Chaney Law Firm to advocate for the injured who are abused by

the insurance industry. If you see people wearing a "7" pin, they are advocates, as is our firm, for the 7th Amendment.

Please ask your legislators to oppose "tort reform" that takes away the right to a fair jury trial. Also, please refuse to sign any petition seeking to hand power over court rules to the legislature, which is a form of tort reform. The constitutional right to a jury trial is the only way to protect ordinary people and small businesses from the powerful interests intent on avoiding responsibility for harms they cause.

The Top 10 Boating Rules You Need to Know

Make sure you know the law before you hit the waves

Boating is one of the many activities we enjoy with our families over summer vacation. Before you go out on the water, please review these important regulations from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission:

1. Anyone born after 1985 must complete an Arkansas Game and Fish Commission-approved boater education course before operating any powerboat, sailboat, or personal watercraft.
2. A boat must have enough life jackets onboard for every passenger, and children 12 years or younger must wear one at all times.
3. Whenever a boat is within 100 feet of a dock, bridge, or recreation area, the speed limit is 5 miles per hour.
4. A boat's lights must be on from sunset to sunrise. All boats must have a raised light, visible from all directions, or two separate lights on the front and back of the boat.
5. It is illegal to tow a person on skis or an inner tube 30 minutes before sunset and 30 minutes after sunrise.
6. Proof of \$50,000 liability insurance must be kept onboard all personal watercraft and all vessels with motors 50 horsepower or more.

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Trial Lawyers of the Year

We were humbled and honored to receive the “Outstanding Trial Lawyers 2013” award from our peers with the Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association. This award was given to a law firm instead of an individual attorney for the first time in the 50 year history of ATLA “in recognition of outstanding professional accomplishments and an exemplary dedication to the legal profession and the administration of justice.”

We are very pleased that our legal team was recognized for its commitment to caring for our clients and for protecting *your* constitutional right to trial by jury.



Intellectual Property Law

Patents, trademarks, and everything in between

We are proud to help our clients protect their investments into marketing, branding, research, and development. We help clients get and enforce all types of intellectual property: trademarks, patents, design patents, copyrights, and trade secrets.



Our patent attorney, Nathan Chaney, is registered to practice in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, which allows the Chaney Law Firm to be a full-service intellectual property firm serving both Arkansans and clients around the nation.

For more information and a more detailed explanation of Intellectual Property, please visit our website at www.chaneylaw.com.

Top 10 Boating Rules

(Continued)

7. The vessel's owner is responsible for any injury or damage caused by an operator.
8. Homeland Security strictly forbids stopping or anchoring beneath bridges. Avoid all security zones, such as those near dams and power plants.
9. When it comes to drinking, the law is the same as it is for driving: 0.08% BAC limit. A first conviction may lead to a \$1000 fine, up to a year in jail, or both, as well as alcohol treatment classes and the loss of the privilege of operating any vessel for 90 days. By operating a vessel on Arkansas’ waterways, a person gives implied consent to alcohol testing if an officer reasonably believes the operator is impaired.
10. Any vessel that is susceptible to tipping or rolling (such as a kayak, canoe, or inner tube) cannot have a glass container onboard. All non-glass containers must be kept inside a floating holder.

These rules help protect the public’s safety. Remember to review them any time you plan to enjoy a day out on the lake. Be safe and have fun!

Digital Motion X-Ray (DMX)

Why is it important to use DMX in spinal ligament cases?

DMX is a medical breakthrough that objectively demonstrates the functional loss caused by impaired joints of the spine due to permanent ligament damage. DMX is the best objective test because normal MRI testing is primarily concerned with static imaging of intervertebral discs and nerves, not ligaments.

Many times injury victims hurt when they move due to spinal instability caused by traumatic ligament injuries. Most plain film x-rays and recumbent MRI imaging cannot detect the true cause of the pain or the full extent of the injuries, which can only be revealed by DMX, which has the ability to show the abnormal functioning of joints in motion.

DMX is much improved technology over traditional plain film x-rays because it demonstrates spinal instability due to abnormal joint motion caused by ligament damage. At its heart, DMX is still a simple x-ray; however, it works with a video camera to take 30 individual x-ray frames per second, creating a motion x-ray that lasts approximately 90 seconds. The video images are made as the patient's head is moved through nine ranges of motion in a normal, weight-bearing posture, thereby providing an assessment of all 22 major cervical ligaments. This results in about 3,000 individual x-ray images that can be viewed on a computer monitor, freeze framed, zoomed in or out, or viewed in slow motion. The individual images can be saved as static x-ray images by the reviewing physician and then analyzed using x-ray computer measuring software to objectively quantify permanent injuries.

While the ligaments themselves are not shown on the x-ray images, the effect of injured ligaments can be ascertained

by abnormal movement of the spinal vertebral bodies in relation to each other. An analogy is watching leaves blowing in a tree: although we cannot see the wind, we can still see the effect of the wind. Likewise, even though we cannot see the cervical ligaments, we can see the results of ligamentous injuries through the abnormal movement of the vertebral bodies.

Don Chaney pioneered the use of DMX as expert scientific evidence that helps objectively quantify permanent spinal injuries. He won the first appellate decision in the U.S. recognizing that DMX is merely a new use of old x-ray technology, and holding that Arkansas juries can hear evidence about DMX testing.

To see a DMX video demonstration of the "Best of the Worst" neck injuries and to learn more, visit our website at www.chaneylaw.com/digital-motion-x-ray/.

Social Security Disability

It's help when you need it the most

Social Security Disability (SSD) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are important sources of income for millions of Americans who have been hurt and can't work. All American workers are charged payroll taxes to pay for this disability insurance protection, as well as retirement benefits, so disability benefits are not considered welfare.

We help our clients through all stages of the appeals process, including hearings before the Administrative Law Judge, before the Appeals Council, and in federal court when necessary. Our disability attorney, Hilary Chaney, has won benefits for clients with a wide range of medical issues, including spinal fusions, chronic pain, diabetes, and mental illness. We have won disability benefits for both children and adults.



If you have been denied SSD or SSI benefits within the last 60 days, please call our office as soon as possible. You have a limited time to appeal this decision, so contacting us before the deadline is very important. Although an appeal can take some time, we will keep you informed throughout the entire process. Statistics show that claimants are 50% more likely to obtain benefits when represented by a lawyer.

Tips for Carefree Swimming

There's no time like summer for a good swim. Follow these guidelines to swim smart and stay safe.

Did you know drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional death for children ages 1 to 14? It's also the fifth leading cause of unintentional death for people of all ages. In a recent report on drowning risks, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) made some surprising discoveries:

- A person is nearly three times as likely to drown in a natural body of water as compared to a swimming pool.
- In 2007, almost 75% of people killed in boating accidents died from drowning. Among those, 84% were not wearing a life jacket.
- After the age of one, males are at a substantially increased risk of drowning, accounting for 88% of all drownings occurring in natural water settings in 2007.

Remember to be careful in the water! The CDC provides several specific and practical tips to help you stay safe. Here are just a few:

- Appoint a supervisor.** A responsible adult who is a good swimmer and knows CPR should be chosen ahead of time to keep an eye on swimmers. This person should pay constant attention. No distractions!
- Use the buddy system.** No matter how old you are, never go swimming alone, and swim in places that have lifeguards on duty whenever possible.
- Wear life jackets.** Always have a Coast Guard-approved life jacket on when you're in or around water, even if you're a strong swimmer. Floating toys and rafts don't count; they aren't made for safety.

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/dsdrowningrisks/>



Thank you!

You entrusted the Chaney Law Firm with your case, and we are honored you chose us. We wish you the very best this summer. Please feel free to contact our offices should you, a friend, or a loved one ever need our legal advice or services.

Have fun this 4th of July and enjoy the rest of your summer.

Most importantly, stay safe!