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Case Resolution

February 2017

Case Results Legal Insights **Product Recalls**

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Firm Reaches Confidential Settlement of Aviation Crash **Case Where Firm Client Sustained Catastrophic Injuries**

Jason Cornell and Mark Clark represented a retired engineer who sustained catastrophic injuries in an airplane crash. Jason Cornell and Mark W. Clark filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Plaintiffs against the pilot and owner of the private airplane alleging pilot error for attempting to land without first deploying the airplane's landing gear. As the plane was about to land, the pilot realized that the landing gear was not deployed, and the pilot pulled the nose of the plane up in an effort to abort the landing. In doing so, the airplane propeller struck the runway, stalling the engine and causing the plane to crash.

Our client was airlifted to a local hospital for significant injuries that included burst fractures to the thoracic and lumbar spine, bleeding on the brain with brain injury and a 49% permanent whole body impairment. The client and his wife have been married over sixty years, and the debilitating injuries stemming from the crash severely diminished the couple's quality of life.

The defense challenged Plaintiff's liability claim, arguing that since our client was a licensed flight instructor, he was the "pilot in command" at the time of the crash. After conducting extensive discovery and preparing for trial, the parties reached a confidential settlement resolving Plaintiffs' claims.

RECALLS

Continental Tire General Tire Grabber



Continental Tire the Americas, LLC is recalling General Tire Grabber light truck tires, size 33x12.50R18 LT 118Q, Load Range E, which was manufactured on May 3, 2015 to May 16, 2015. These tires have an issue with adhesion within the belt

package, which causes the tread to wear, bulge, and separate. This increases the risk of a crash. Continental plans to notify all owners and dealars, and will real ass the offerted times for free

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Heartland Recreational Vehicles 2017 Mallard Trailer

Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC is recalling the 2017 Mallard recreational trailer, which may have incorrect tire size or tire pressure information on their certification labels. Incorrect tire



pressure or size may cause an operator to improperly inflate the tires or overload the vehicle, which increases the risk of a crash. The recall began on January 25, 2017, and Heartland notified owners and dealers that the certification label will be replaced and corrected, free of charge.

Tesla 2012 Model S



Tesla Motors, Inc. is recalling certain 2012 Model S vehicles sold or registered in a number of states, including Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, and

Mississippi, due to air bag inflators, which may rupture due to propellant degradation, resulting in metal fragments striking the occupants of the vehicle upon deployment. Tesla will replace the front passenger air bag, free of charge.

Triumph 2016-2017 Bonneville T120 and Bonneville T120 Black

Triumph Motorcycles America, LTD is recalling certain 2016-2017 Bonneville T120 and Bonneville T120 Black motorcycles due to the heated hand grips, which may expand during use,



causing the throttle to stick open, increasing the risk of a crash. Triumph's number for this recall is SB 546. Triumph will install a spacer to prevent the throttle from sticking, free of charge.

Takata Air Bag Inflators



Takata Corporation is recalling model year 2012 vehicles registered in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina,

Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U.S. Virgin Islands due to certain air bag inflators, which may rupture due to propellant degradation that occurs after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity, high temperatures, and high temperature cycling. An air bag rupture may

result in metal fragments striking occupants of the vehicle, causing

serious injury or death

General Motors 2016-2017 Chevrolet Suburban HD Vehicles

General Motors LLC is recalling certain 2016-2017 Chevrolet Suburban HD vehicles, which were assembled with a convex right-hand outside mirror rather than a non-convex, flat, right-hand



outside mirror. With the incorrect right-side rear-view mirror, drivers might misjudge the distance of other vehicles, which may increase the risk of a crash. GM's number for this recall is 17017.

To read a full list of recalls, click here.

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