



Miley Legal News

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The Miley Legal Group would like to thank everyone that provided referrals to our office this past month:

**Rodney R.
Amy J.
Stephanie H.
Don P.**

Injuries in the Oil and Gas Field

Note: With the most recent oil field injuries, we wanted to provide some important information to those that work in the industry to ensure that they understand what they should do in case they are injured on the job.

Working in the oil and gas industry is hazardous work. There are a number of dangers that lurk throughout the daily life of an oil and gas worker. Most companies that operate in this area have many safety precautions in place to ensure that their workers stay out of harm's way. In fact, hundreds of thousands of oil and gas workers go to and from work each day without any issues. However, it is when someone either makes a simple mistake, or proper procedures were not followed that can lead to devastating results.

Accident and injuries can happen throughout the process of removing oil or gas from the ground and getting it to the point of consumption. Every day, workers in the industry are working around heavy equipment and dangerous flammables. Most workers in the industry are very skilled and have had years of history in the field. However, all of the experience in the world cannot prevent an accident when they are relying on the actions of other, less experienced co-workers or contract employees.

We have seen crush injuries and explosion injuries that have directly resulted from the carelessness of others. We have seen broken bones and even loss of limbs due to safety procedures not being put in place.

West Virginia employment and liability laws can be confusing. What happens when a devastating injury occurs in the workplace? Is the injury just a workers compensation issue? Who will be held liable? Were all safety precautions followed? Was a third-party contractor at fault? Who will help the employee or their family get back on their feet? All of these questions are important and need answers. Each one can confuse even the most seasoned oil and gas worker and even some attorneys.

Over the past few weeks, we have seen a number of oil and gas injuries appear in the news. Unfortunate circumstances caused most of these events; however, when an injury is caused by the negligence of an employer or that of a contracted company, that is when it is critical to speak with someone who is knowledgeable about the law. In the end as a worker in the field, you want to make sure that you and your family is protected and taken care of. This can only be done by speaking with an experienced attorney that can answer your questions on your next steps to take.



Road Trip Tips



less and bored.

Boxes or bags containing stickers books, drawing pads, washable window markers and crayons will certainly keep the little ones entertained.

Road trips are often something that sounds like more fun than they actually end up being, but some simple tips and advance preparation can make them a lot less irritating than they could otherwise become.

Rather than relying entirely on the radio for your musical entertainment needs on the road, there are other ways to keep you and other family members entertained. Keep in mind that if you do want to rely solely on the radio during your trip, you might Google a few stations along the way so you are prepared when the current radio station goes out.

If you decide to stream from your smart phone, make sure that your phone is loaded up with nostalgic songs, current tunes, podcasts and even audiobooks to keep you feeling happy and lighthearted on the drive.

Kids love surprises, so make it a point to have a few surprise kits for the road trip for your kids stashed away in order to bring out when they start getting rest-



MLG and WBOY Celebrating Volunteers

Charlotte Milbert a Volunteer at a Task Force on Domestic Violence, HOPE, Inc.



Every two minutes in the United States someone is sexually assaulted. In West Virginia alone, 1 in 6 adult women and 1 in 21 men will be the victim of an attempted or a completed forcible rape. Those statistics are staggering. Groups across our region have been created to reduce these numbers and to help those that are a part of them to begin the recovery process. One of those amazing organizations is Hope, Inc. A Task Force on Domestic Violence.

Hope, Inc. is based in Clarksburg but serves a number of counties, including Harrison, Doddridge, Marion, Gilmer, and Lewis. As a non-profit agency, they offer shelter and confidential support services to victims of sexual assault or domestic violence. More specifically, they make up part of the rapid response team when a victim reports a sexual assault. They also offer services such as a 24-hour hotline and professional counseling to support victims and their families. For victims

in unsafe situations, they also offer shelter services in a safe and supportive environment.

Charlotte Milbert has volunteered at Hope, Inc. since 2013. She is an active participant in the Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program. Her role in the program is multi-faceted in responding directly to sexual assault victims and their families to working on programs that raise awareness of sexual assault and methods of prevention.

"For this particular program, volunteers are vitally important. They help with a variety of tasks which, in the end, allows us to have more one-on-one time with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Survivors are often ones who want to give back by volunteering with us," stated Jackie Ritter, Outreach Coordinator for Hope, Inc.

Hope, Inc. works hand in hand with local medical providers, law enforcement, and other agencies to continually offer their support to victims. In addition to their sexual assault response system, Hope, Inc. also has an extensive program that assists those that are affected by domestic violence.

"Sexual assault, along with domestic violence has always been prevalent in our communities, however with recent national spotlights on the issues, it is important to see the support systems such as the one Hope, Inc. provides within our community," stated Marisa Matyola of WBOY. "It takes a special person to volunteer for programs such as this, and Charlotte is a very special person for doing so."



Recent Victories

✓ We identified over \$200,000 in additional insurance for a motorcycle accident victim, greatly increasing their recovery.

✓ Our office identified an easier way for our client to submit bills to their insurance company for payment, helping to reduce the number of phone calls they were receiving.

Google Review:

★★★★★ "I want to say thanks for all the hard work in this matter, great job well done. Thank you."

Allen H.

"Recognizing volunteers in our community for their amazing work is only a first step in raising awareness of the issues that they face every day. Hope, Inc. and their volunteers provide necessary services to help prevent, treat and assist in the recovery of sexual assault and domestic violence," said Tim Miley, owner of The Miley Legal Group. "The task they face can be overwhelming at times, but their steadfast approach to providing services to victims in need truly reflect the perseverance they have to address these issues in our community."

"I believe in giving back to the community. This is not an easy volunteer position, but it is extremely important to our community," expressed Charlotte.

To learn more about Hope, Inc.'s services or to donate your time or funds, contact Hope, Inc. at (304)624-9835. If you are in need of any of the services they provide, you can also reach out to that number for Harrison County. If you are in Lewis County, the number is (304)269-8233, Gilmer County (304)462-5352 and Doddridge County at (304)873-1416.

If you have a volunteer that you would like to nominate to be recognized, you can do so by visiting MileyLegal.com and clicking on the Celebrating Volunteers logo.

Recipe of the Month: Pizza Casserole

Ingredients:

2 cups uncooked egg noodles
1/2 lb. lean ground beef
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 green bell pepper, chopped
1 cup sliced pepperoni
16 oz. pizza sauce
4 Tbsp milk
1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded



Directions:

1. Cook noodles according to package directions.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a med. skillet over med-high heat, brown the ground beef with the onion, garlic and bell pepper. Drain excess fat. Stir in the noodles, pepperoni, pizza sauce and milk, and mix well.
3. Pour mixture into a 2-quart casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes, top with the cheese, then bake for 5 to 10 more minutes.

Recipe & Picture Courtesy of Allrecipes.com. Submit recipes to mlg@mileylegal.com

Words of Encouragement

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

- Jeremiah 29:11

"Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise."

- Proverbs 19:20-21

"Your worth consists in what you are and not in what you have."

- Thomas Edison

June's Cases of Interest

Injury at School:

With the type of law we practice, we see all types of injuries, including those caused by unfunded maintenance issues at our local schools. Although not at the fault of school personnel, our schools are becoming



more hazardous and upkeep is missed due to lack of funding. We were contacted by a parent upset that their child was injured during recess at school. The accident occurred when the child was using an old set of monkey bars that had become dangerous due to the wear and tear it had received over the years, which were not addressed.

The injuries sustained by the student included a broken arm and sprained wrist. During our investigation it was discovered that the principal of the school was aware of the potential danger and had asked the maintenance team of the school district to either make repairs or remove the equipment. As neither were done, a child was injured and the school district may be held liable.

Car Slams into Home, Injures Occupants

Can you imagine sitting in your own living room doing what you do every evening, watching your favorite television shows, when all of a sudden, you are interrupted by a sports car crashing through your wall and injuring you and a family member? Well that was exactly what happened to one of our clients. They were sitting in their home one fateful evening when a speeding driver who lost control of their car careened off the road and into their living room, hitting and injuring our client. After receiving medical attention and

after the insurance company began to contact her, she reached out to our office seeking information. We provided a free consultation and answered all of her questions. We outlined what her options were and she agreed to allow us to represent her with her claim.

It is very clear to us who is responsible for her injuries and who should be liable, but when an insurance company gets involved, they begin to look for ways to reduce their pay out. Having our office on her side will provide our client with a resource that she can use to battle the nonsense the insurance company is sure to throw her way. She made an educated decision that will surely pay off for her in the end.



"The greatest compliment we can receive is the referral of your family and friends."

*Check out our blog at
MileyLegalBlog.com*



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and Gas Field"* *Page 1*

Give this newsletter to a friend. They will thank you for it and so will I.

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Miley Family Fun



Susan's Side of the Family



Tim's Side of the Family

**Susan and Jordin
Graduate from WVU!**