

RENDA & VOYNICK

Personal Injury Attorneys

RENDA & VOYNICK
Celebrating

28 YEARS

of service to the community

*Renda & Voynick selected as
Personal Injury Super Lawyers for 10th year in a row!*

*Jack Voynick named president of
American Board of Trial Advocates—NJ*

This year the law firm of **Renda & Voynick**, personal injury attorneys, is celebrating its 28th year of practice. **Andy Renda** and **Jack Voynick** formed their law partnership in 1986. They attended St. Benedict's Prep in Newark, where they played basketball together. After law school, they worked for separate law firms, defending major insurance companies and Fortune 500 companies, which gave them invaluable knowledge as to how personal injury cases are evaluated and defended by the other side. It also instilled their desire to represent the "Davids" against the corporate "Goliaths" of the world.

The firm is also pleased to announce that Jack Voynick and Andrew Renda will be named for the 10th consecutive year as "Super Lawyers" in the area of plaintiff personal injury in the April 2014 edition of *New Jersey Monthly* magazine, the selection criteria being fully set forth at Superlawyers.com.* Mr. Voynick and Mr. Renda were among a distinguished group of lawyers that is comprised of less than 1 percent of all lawyers throughout the state of New Jersey.

Renda & Voynick was founded in August 1986 and since that time has continued to represent victims injured by the wrongful acts of others. Year after year, the firm has achieved exceptional results for their clients and is widely respected by judges, lawyers,

and insurance companies as a law firm that obtains multimillion-dollar recoveries for clients.

Both Mr. Voynick and Mr. Renda are specialists and have been certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as Civil Trial Attorneys continuously since

1987. They continue to provide compassionate and aggressive representation for individuals who have suffered serious personal injuries.

This past year Jack Voynick was named president of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), of which Andy Renda is also a member. ABOTA is comprised of the finest trial attorneys in the state, representing both plaintiffs and

defendants. Mr. Renda is also a trustee of the Essex County Bar Association, of which Mr. Voynick is a former trustee. Mr. Voynick was named the 2010 Civil Trial Attorney of the Year in Essex County. Mr. Renda is also a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum for achieving a trial verdict in excess of \$1 million.

In addition to his many professional associations, Mr. Voynick volunteers his time and serves as mock trial attorney-coach of the St. Benedict's Prep mock trial team.

*The New Jersey Supreme Court has neither reviewed nor approved this article.



ESTABLISHED 1986

2014

Renda & Voynick
John S. Voynick, Jr.
Andrew J. Renda, Jr.

Certified by the Supreme Court of
New Jersey as Civil Trial Attorneys
Members of the New Jersey and
Florida Bars

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We take pride in the quality of our legal work.

Know the signs of elder abuse

Elder abuse comes in many forms and happens regardless of gender, income level, or ethnicity. According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, "elder abuse is a term referring to any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver, or any other person, that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult."

It takes the form of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and includes exploitation, neglect, and abandonment. Abuse can come from family members, trusted professionals, or complete strangers who seek out vulnerable targets to exploit. It is not clear how widespread elder abuse is, because many seniors don't report abuse.



Signs of elder abuse:

- ◆ Physical signs such as bruises, broken bones, abrasions, or burns could be caused by physical abuse or neglect.
- ◆ Bruising around the breasts or genitals could indicate sexual abuse.
- ◆ Bedsores, unmet medical and hygiene needs, dehydration, and weight loss may result from neglect.
- ◆ Sudden change in financial situation, including changes in legal documents and large gifts, could be a result of exploitation.
- ◆ Withdrawal from normal activities, changes in behavior or alertness, depression, and strained caregiver relations can be caused by emotional abuse.

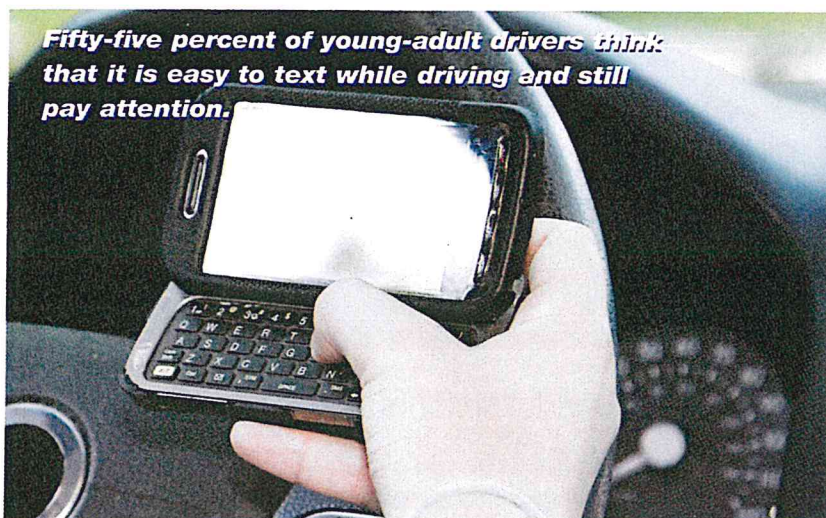
If you are a senior in an abusive situation or suspect someone else is being abused at home or in a care facility, call our office.

Don't TEXT and DRIVE!

Texting while driving is downright dangerous; avoiding it should be a no-brainer. But if you need another reason not to text while driving, teens who say their parents drive distracted are more likely to do so themselves. In a recent study by Students Against Destructive Decisions and Liberty Mutual, 66 percent of teens surveyed said that their parents texted, talked on the phone, or participated in another distracting activity while driving.

Here are a few other scary 2012 statistics regarding texting while driving, published by carinsurance.org.

- Those texting are 23 times more likely to get into an accident.
- 18 percent of fatalities from distraction-related accidents are caused by cell phones.
- 30 percent of teens text while driving.
- 55 percent of young-adult drivers think that it is easy to text while driving and still pay attention.
- According to a Car and Driver study, a driver's reaction time while reading and sending texts was worse than if impaired by alcohol.



Fifty-five percent of young-adult drivers think that it is easy to text while driving and still pay attention.

Failure to diagnose cancer

Since cancer is most treatable and curable in its early stages, failure to diagnose the disease can be a death sentence for patients. Even armed with innovative diagnostic equipment and years of education and experience, physicians can make mistakes that lead to failed and delayed diagnoses.

Failure to order tests

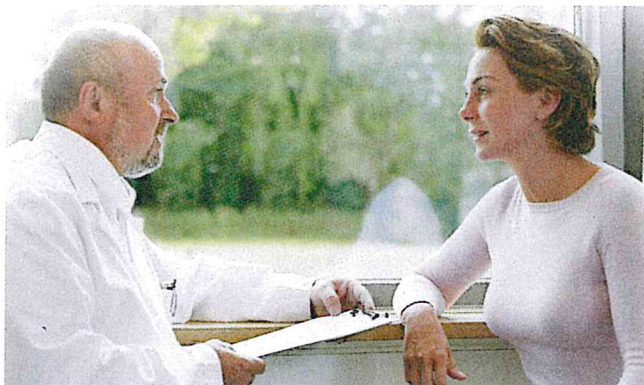
When a person visits a doctor, the doctor must provide a reason for the symptoms. This is often done by ordering tests to isolate or rule out the cause of the symptoms. When a doctor fails to request a test after being made aware of key indicators of cancer, valuable months can pass before a correct diagnosis is reached.

Failure to interpret tests correctly

If a physician fails to read a biopsy or imaging test correctly, time is lost. When cancer is detected in later stages, it is more difficult to treat and more likely to reoccur.

Failure to follow up on test results

When a medical professional fails to follow up on test results that are abnormal, a treatable form of cancer could quickly spread to other areas of the body and become deadly.



If you or a loved one feels that cancer discovered in a late stage was due to a physician's failure to diagnose the condition in a timely manner, call us to talk about your situation.

Identity theft

Identity theft is on the rise. It is estimated that 12.6 million Americans were victims in 2012. Identity thieves are on the lookout for ways to get a hold of personal information such as Social Security and credit card numbers. With this information, they can open up bank accounts in someone else's name, order and use new credit cards, and purchase merchandise online. This can leave a victim's good credit destroyed and can take years to recover from.

HERE'S HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM IDENTITY THIEVES:

- Dispose of personal documents with sensitive information by shredding them. Identity thieves love trash day.
- Keep personal documents with sensitive information in a locked drawer, safe, or safe-deposit box. Identity thieves aren't always strangers.
- Have a unique and different password for each of your accounts. Including numbers and random capital letters is helpful.
- Don't give out private information via phone or e-mail. Scammers often call pretending to be a legitimate business requesting payment information. If you think the request is legitimate, hang up the phone and call the company back on their advertised customer-service number.
- Check your accounts for suspicious activity, make sure your address is correct, and if you receive a credit card that you didn't order, call the company to report it right away.
- If you think you've been a victim of identity theft, contact TransUnion, Equifax, or Experian to place an alert on your credit report, contact the account(s) in question, and file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The FTC will try to help recover damages and work with law enforcement to track down the criminal.

National Dog Bite Prevention Week

The third week of May is National Dog Bite Prevention Week. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) urges people to remember that even nice dogs can bite.

Here are some stats from the AVMA:

- Each year, more than 4.5 million people in the United States are bitten by dogs.
- Every year, more than 800,000 Americans receive medical attention for dog bites; at least half of them are children.
- Children are, by a wide margin, the most common victims of dog bites and are far more likely to be severely injured.
- Most dog bites affecting young children occur during everyday activities and while interacting with familiar dogs.
- In 2011, dog-bite claims accounted for one-third of all homeowner's liability insurance claims at a cost of \$479 million.

The Humane Society offers the following tips if you think you might get attacked:

- Resist the impulse to scream and run away.
- Remain motionless, hands at your sides, and avoid eye contact with the dog.
- Once the dog loses interest in you, slowly back away until he is out of sight.
- If the dog does attack, "feed" him your jacket, purse, bicycle, or anything that you can put between yourself and the dog.
- If you fall or are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball with your hands over your ears and remain motionless. Try not to scream or roll around.

If you or a family member is attacked and injured by a dog, call our office for a consultation right away.

RENDA & VOYNICK

obtains substantial recoveries for clients

Renda & Voynick has obtained additional recoveries on behalf of our clients since our last newsletter.

A manufacturer and distributor of a defective crib was forced to pay a total of **\$2.1 million** in a tragic case in which an infant died as a result of suffocation when she climbed out of the crib because the railings were of substandard height and improperly assembled by representatives of the distributor. Not only did the recovery help the family to move to another house to avoid reliving the memory, it also was able to fund college education costs of a sibling. Most importantly, the lawsuit convinced the manufacturer and distributor of the foreign-made crib to pay closer attention to safety issues and to make sure that their cribs comply with federal regulations. It is hoped that the child did not die in vain and that the suit will actually serve to prevent future similar tragedies.

In another case, a nursing home was found to be grossly negligent in the treatment of a stroke patient. A pressure ulcer, otherwise known as a bedsore, resulted from the lack of care, and the failure of the nursing home to address the issue caused the pressure ulcer to become so enlarged that it ultimately led to a severe bone infection and resultant death. Again, it is hoped that this nursing home will take better care of its patients so that future instances of this type of abuse and neglect can be avoided. The recovery in this case following mediation with a retired judge was **\$550,000**.

Renda & Voynick also recovered the sum of **\$1,050,000** on behalf of a client who was a pedestrian struck by a negligent driver. The client sustained multiple fractures in her right leg and ankle that required four surgeries, including open reduction and internal fixation surgery utilizing a plate and screws. The case resolved subsequent to court-ordered arbitration.

In another matter, Renda & Voynick obtained a **\$300,000** recovery on behalf of a client who was struck from the rear by a negligent driver. She sustained extensive injuries to her back, which necessitated lumbar surgery, including fusion and hardware (screws and a plate). After recovering the \$100,000 policy limit from the insurance carrier of the negligent driver, Renda & Voynick successfully pursued an underinsured motorist claim in which we recovered an additional \$200,000, the total amount available under the client's UIM policy.

Renda & Voynick also recovered **\$290,000** for a client who was injured while riding his bicycle. The defendant opened the door of his illegally parked automobile and struck our client, knocking him to the street. He sustained serious head injuries, including fractures and hemorrhagic contusions which resulted in his loss of smell. Recovery was obtained for substantially the entire amount of the driver's insurance policy.

Renda & Voynick obtained a **\$210,000** settlement on behalf of a client who slipped and fell on black ice in the parking lot of her apartment building. She sustained injuries to her ankle, including a fracture which necessitated open reduction internal fixation

Thank you for your referrals!

Thanks to all of you who have recommended our firm to your relatives, friends, and neighbors.

We appreciate your vote of confidence and pledge to care for these "VIPs" as well as we care for you.



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ABOUT THINGS.**

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surgery. The case settled following mediation with a retired judge.

All of the above clients recognized the effort and dedication displayed by Renda & Voynick on their behalf and were appreciative of the recoveries obtained.



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