

News You Can Use

Personal Injury | Medical Malpractice | Workers Compensation

Volume 1, Issue 4, July/August 2010

CHILD SUMMER SAFETY EDITION

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Safe, Happy Travels

Each year as summer begins and we have longer, sunny days our lives seem to get exponentially busier. Maybe it's because summer camp started up again, or because the annual summer vacation is approaching, or because a little sunshine from a day at the park is exactly what the doctor ordered. For those of us in Kansas City, though, perhaps it's just the smell of BBQ that entices us out of the house and away from our work.

Whatever the reason, the reality is that with more on our daily agendas, more places to go and more people to see, we will undoubtedly spend more time in our automobiles. While some will cruise around town by themselves, many will travel with children – usually just our own, unless

tonight is our turn for carpool duty, in which case the minivan will be full to its capacity. And it is amidst this increasing chaos that those of us driving with children onboard must remember several general rules* to help ensure that the youngsters in our charge arrive safely at their destination:

1. Always be sure that every passenger (yourself included) is properly secured with either a seat belt or safety restraint.
2. Avoid seating children in the front passenger seat whenever possible. The safest place for children to travel is in the back seat of your vehicle.

Continued on next page.

Can I use a carseat/booster in a position in my vehicle that does not have a headrest?

Children MUST have some type of head support to help prevent whiplash which can lead to serious injury. Proper support should come up to at least the midpoint of the skull — or about the tops of your child's ears as an easier way to gauge. This type of support is provided by rear-facing infant seats, convertible seats (seats that face either front or back depending on how they are positioned), forward-facing only seats with a harness, and high-back booster seats.

If your child is using a backless booster (or is old enough to use just the lap/shoulder belts) they should not be seated in any position where the back of the seat or headrest does not come to at least the midpoint of their skull or level with the tops of their ears.

"JUST ASK JIM"



Roswold Law Group: By the Numbers...

As of June 15, 2010

2,745	Visitors to our website (5/15/10 - 6/15/10)
363	Blogs, articles, FAQs, news stories and videos on our website to keep you informed
61	Facebook Fans
1	Lucky winner of a \$25 gift certificate Congratulations, Anita W.



Help Us Reach
1,000 Fans!

Roswold Law Group is on a mission to get 1,000 Facebook fans. We're a long way from our goal, so we need your help!

As an incentive for you, at each milestone reached (250 fans, 500 fans, 750 fans, 1,000 fans) we'll enter all our fans into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to a store or restaurant of your choice.

If you'd like to have your name entered into the drawings please go to Facebook and search **Kansas City Accident Injury Attorneys** to become a fan of Roswold Law Group!

"Safe, Happy Travels" continued from page 1.

3. If you need to place a child in the front seat, be sure to back the seat as far away from the dashboard as possible.
4. Infants (typically characterized as being under 12 months of age and/or weighing less than 20 lbs) should always be placed in rear-facing car seats.
5. Children under the age of 4 yrs old/under 40 lbs should always travel in a federally-approved child safety seat (car seat).
6. Typically, children under 8 yrs old/80 lbs/4'9" should travel in a booster system approved for their size and compatible with your vehicle.

*Vehicle Safety laws vary by state. Please contact the department of transportation in your state for specific regulations.

Keeping Safe on Kansas City Playgrounds

School is out and the kids are bouncing off the walls. It's time to take the kids to the playground for some good, safe fun. But did you know that every year American emergency rooms treat more than 200,000 children under the age of 14 for playground-related injuries?

About 15 children a year die from playground accidents. Most of these deaths are caused by either strangulation or falls. 45% of playground injuries are severe. These injuries include: fractures, internal injuries, strangulations, concussions and other brain injuries, as well as dislocation.

About 75% of playground injuries occur at public playgrounds, at schools or daycare centers. Other injuries occur at private playgrounds and on home playground equipment. Children between the ages of 5 and 9 are most likely to sustain injury.

Playground Safety Tips:

1. Always supervise your children.
2. Inspect the ground for broken glass, sharp objects, litter and other dangers.
3. Do not allow your children to play on broken equipment.
4. Look for protruding hardware or nails and for sharp edges.
5. On hot, sunny days, playground equipment can cause serious burns. Check the temperatures of slides and other equipment before your child plays.
6. Remove any drawstrings from your child's clothing. Do not allow your child to wear loose clothing or necklaces while at the playground as they may pose a strangulation hazard.

For more tips on how to keep your kids safe at the playground this summer, please visit our website at: www.kansascityaccidentinjuryattorneys.com

FEATURED TESTIMONIAL



"The help James gave me to get back on my feet so I could physically be there for my family is what I appreciate the most. He took a situation that could have ended very badly and really came through for my family in a big way. His experience and caring helped me resolve my injuries." -DIANE S.

Summertime in Kansas City:

Time to Think About Pool Safety

According to a recent report by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, swimming pool and spa drownings peak in June, July and August.

Every year, about 299 children under the age of 5 drown in swimming pools and spas. Half of these children are toddlers between the ages of 1 and 2. An additional 86 children between the ages of 5 and 15 also drown each year.

Annually, about 4,200 children are treated in emergency rooms for pool or spa immersion injuries or near drownings. Most swimming pool deaths of children under 5 occur at home.

The CPSC suggests that families use multiple safeguards to prevent drowning. They suggest that families with swimming pools follow these safety precautions:

Place barriers completely around the pool:

- Fences around a pool should be at least 4 feet high and completely encase the pool;
- Fence slats should be less than 4 inches apart to prevent children from squeezing through;
- Gates should be self-closing and self-latching. Latches should be out of reach of young children;
- If your house forms part of the barrier around the pool, then doors to the pool should have alarms that sound when opened;
- Steps or ladders to an above ground pool should be secured or removed when not in use.

Closely supervise young children at all times:

- Don't assume that a child who knows how to swim is drown-proof. Always supervise children while swimming;
- Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.

Be prepared in case of emergency:

- Keep rescue equipment and a phone near the pool;
- Learn CPR and basic first aid;
- Keep emergency phone numbers posted on or near the phone.

Under certain conditions, the suction from the drains of swimming pools and spas can entrap swimmers underwater. To prevent entrapment danger, take these steps:

- Replace old, flat drain covers with a newer, dome-shaped drain cover;
- Never use a pool or spa with a broken or missing drain cover;
- Consider installing a Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS) device that will automatically shut off the pump if a blockage is detected;
- Get your pool or spa inspected for entrapment or entanglement hazards;
- Mark the electrical cut-off switch so it can be quickly found in an emergency;
- If someone is trapped, cut off the pump immediately;
- Place a hand between the victim and the drain to break the suction. Do not pull on the victim.



There is no bigger compliment than referrals from our clients. A big THANK YOU to those who have recently referred new clients.

Lindsey G. ● Missouri Auto Accident

John M. ● Missouri Drunk Driving Accident

Attorney Andrew Talge ● Kansas Auto Accident

Each of the above referrals has resulted in a donation to the Roswold Foundation for Injured Children, founded by James Roswold and Heather Lottmann to provide assistance and educational materials to injured children and their families.

We thank you for these referrals.



For more information about Roswold Foundation for Injured Children, visit www.roswoldfoundation.org

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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 action on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

Quote of the month

"You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance."
– Franklin P. Jones

FUN

Did you know that there are 206 bones in the adult human body, but there are 300 in children? As children grow some of their bones fuse together.

fact

MONTHLY CONTEST

How Would You Like to Win a Gift Card?

Each month we will feature a new trivia question. All you have to do is be the first one to answer this question correctly:

What is the leading cause of non-fatal injuries to children?

The first person to call us at 816-471-5111 with the correct answer wins a gift card. It's that easy!

Safety tip of the month

Make sure that your children always wear helmets while riding their bikes. The insurance institute for highway safety estimates that a helmet can reduce the risk of serious head injury by 85%.

