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**Our thoughts are with those that are defending this great nation. We wish their speedy return to their families and loved ones.**

I do not think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.

Abraham Lincoln

**RBR & LAWYERS AGAINST HUNGER**

RBR participated in the 2011 Thanksgiving meal give-away in Oklahoma City which was a huge success. Over 4500 hungry Oklahomans received meals that but for the generous contributions of Oklahoma trial lawyers they would not have enjoyed. The 2011 meal give-away was even bigger and better than last year. Meals were distributed to Oklahomans in Oklahoma City, Norman and Tulsa.

RBR gladly donated again to "Lawyers Against Hunger". The mission of Lawyers Against Hunger, Inc. is to help feed the hungry. Through contributions many hungry Oklahomans had a very good meal on Thanksgiving.

We hope that each and every Oklahoman indeed had a great Thanksgiving, and were able to share the day with loved ones and friends.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Oklahoma County Bar Association (OCBA) has a program called "Oklahoma Lawyers for America's Heroes" and has a referral network of lawyers ready to provide legal services free of charge to veterans meeting certain income requirements in matters ranging from family law to consumer and creditor issues to VA and related benefit programs. Oklahoma County has 81 attorneys in the referral system at this time.

The District Attorney and Public Defender also have a new veteran diversion program. Under the program veterans charged with crimes are carefully screened for

their eligibility to have their case diverted from the criminal docket if they comply with the terms of a contract that often requires weekly meetings, substance abuse testing and counseling, employment, child support, and restitution. The program has 40 participants at the present time with over 50 applications pending, and has already helped many veterans get their lives back on track.

OCBA also plans to hold a free legal services clinic at the VA hospital and there are plans to explore the feasibility to hold clinics at county homeless shelters.

**SOLUTION TO UNCONSTITUTIONAL LAWS, STACK THE COURTS WITH FAVORABLE JUDGES**

It appears that the Chamber of Commerce has a solution to the advancement of unconstitutional legislation—create the "Oklahoma Civil Justice System". A catchy phrase that implies "justice". Unfortunately, it will have the opposite affect.

The purpose of this organization as expressed in a letter addressed to Wes Glinsmann, the Director of political affairs for medical providers in Oklahoma, from the State Chamber of Commerce inviting the medical association to join the Chamber's efforts, is: to create "a 501(c)(4) foundation which will be able to (1) direct and fund legal challenges to rules, regulations and laws which are found to be detrimental to the economic growth of the state; and, (2) to develop a system of judicial evaluation". Translation: Create a foundation who will perform "judicial evaluations" that will result in the formation of ancillary PAC's that would be capable of pouring massive amounts of money into negative advertising against sitting judicial candidates who they deem are hindering "economic growth", i.e., finding tort reform (insurance sponsored legislation) unconstitutional. It would be impossible

for a sitting judge who defends the Oklahoma Constitution to combat such actions on an equal financial footing. Any judge that finds "tort reform" legislation unconstitutional would be targeted by the Chamber's backed judicial candidate.

The Chamber specifically referenced judicial challenges to the passage of the "new tort reform laws" as one of the basis for the creation of the organization. The recent business and insurance legislation, labeled as "tort reform", puts the government in the jury box by capping noneconomic damages. Now the Chamber is creating an organization of special interest groups, such as corporations, insurance companies, and medical providers to target judges.

When you hear the these special interest groups reference the organization called the "Oklahoma Civil Justice System", you will now know exactly what that organization's purpose is, which is not to achieve "justice" for the citizens of this state but to create a slush fund to pour money into to defeat judge's who protect citizens' rights. Sad, but true.

## **Car Seat Registration Is Important**

Thousands of car seats are recalled every year, but parents may not be aware of the recalls because the car seat was not registered after its purchase, which results in the parents not receiving the recall notices.

Britax, who manufactures child car seats, recently recalled 14,220 car seats it manufactured. The recall is for the Chaperone car seat. The recall was issued because a rivet can become loose and cause the harness adjuster to detach from the seat. If this occurs the harness straps cannot properly restrain a baby during a crash, which could in turn cause serious injuries or even death to the infant.

To make sure that you are not using a recalled car seat, parents must either search for the car seat on the recall list or register the seat in the event recall notices are sent. To search for a recalled seat on the recall list you can go to <http://www.carseat.org/Recalls/179NP.pdf> and look for the seat model on the recall list.

It is really important that parents register the car seat after it is purchased. That is the best way to ensure that the parents receive recall notices if they are indeed issued. You can also register the seat with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. There is little doubt that car seats, when operating properly, reduce injuries and save infant lives.

Be safe, REGISTER YOUR CHILD'S CAR SEAT.

**Want to know more about the firm, go to [www.rbrlawfirm.com](http://www.rbrlawfirm.com)**



**EXPERIENCE, SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE TIPS THE SCALE IN FAVOR OF OUR CLIENTS.** We get results, it's just that simple! RBR has collected over \$500,000,000.00 (and growing) for our clients. We do our best to obtain successful results each and every day for our clients!!

## **NHTSA Opens Investigation Into Ford Taurus**

An investigation concerning an estimated 360,000 Ford Taurus Sedans has been opened by the Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The inquiry involves the reported problem with the throttle getting stuck in an open position. The investigation involves the Taurus model years 2005 and 2006, after the administration became aware of approximately 14 consumer complaints alleging incidents of a stuck throttle resulting from cruise control cable detachment. It is too early to determine if Ford will issue a recall since the investigation is in its early stages.

The complaints allege engine speeds as high as 4,000 revolutions per minute after shifting the car into park or neutral. Some drivers reported that they had to shut off the engine or shift into neutral to stop the car according to documents filed with NHTSA.

Source: Claims Journal

## **GRADUATION**

Proud parents across the state are preparing to watch their sons and daughters walk the long awaited walk to receive their college diplomas. As we all know, obtaining a college diploma these days requires a great deal of family and financial planning. I certainly know this fact first hand.

When I received the first bill, and subsequent bills, from OU it looked like the "fees" exceeded the "credit hour" costs. Calling to inquire about such fees resulted in little more than responses equating to "that's just the way it is" type of responses. As a parent, I have learned that the true cost of receiving a college degree is not based on credit hour cost, but one has to add in all the incidental fees.

## **Louisiana Recovers \$25.2 Million From Drug Companies Charged With Fraud**

The Attorney General, Buddy Caldwell, has recovered \$25.2 million from Actavis, Boehringer Ingelheim, Dey, Glaxo-Smith Kline, and Schering-Plough. The companies were sued for alleged unlawful inflation of drug costs paid by Louisiana taxpayers through the Medicare Program. The companies will pay a combined total of \$25 million for misrepresenting drug price information in order to improperly increase reimbursements paid by Louisiana's Medicaid program.

Attorney General Caldwell stated the following regarding the litigation: "These settlement funds are just the tip of the iceberg. We will continue to fight to recover our taxpayer dollars until every cent is accounted for".

## **Skin Cream Warning**

The FDA has warned that skin creams, soaps and lotions manufactured overseas and sold in some U.S. shops might contain toxic amounts of mercury. The products are usually marketed as skin lighteners or anti-aging creams to remove blemishes according to the FDA.

The products are sold illegally in U.S. shops, mostly in Latino, Asian, African or Middle Eastern neighborhoods. The FDA says in order to protect themselves consumers should not use any unlabeled skin products and should stop using any skin products that mention mercury.