

Messa & Associates

TRIAL ATTORNEYS WITH A REPUTATION FOR RESULTS

We Never Forget that
Behind Every Case, are
Real People

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Joseph L. Messa, Jr. Named Among New Jersey's Top Rated Lawyers

Joseph L. Messa, Jr., founding partner of Messa & Associates, P.C., has been named to the *Top Rated Lawyers* in New Jersey list for 2012. Mr. Messa was selected as a leading attorney in the medical malpractice and personal injury fields, areas where he has more than 20 years of experience representing plaintiffs in cases against doctors, hospitals, medical practice groups, nursing and homes as well as other personal injury defendants.

Mr. Messa is a member of the Bars of the Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Court for the District of New Jersey, as well as the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, and the First, Third, and Sixth Circuit Courts of Appeals. He received his juris doctorate, *cum laude*, from Temple University School of Law in 1988.

In addition, he is an active member of the American Association for Justice; American Bar Association; Pennsylvania Association for Justice; New Jersey Association for Justice, Philadelphia, Camden, Burlington County New Jersey Bar Associations; and the Justinian Society. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association since 2006, and currently holds the leadership position of Treasurer.

Mr. Messa is an AV-rated attorney, listed in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers. He is a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum and was named a Top 100 Trial Lawyer by *The National Trial Lawyers*. Mr. Messa is also an advocate of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He has been recognized as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. In 2012, Super Lawyers named him as a Top 100 attorney for Pennsylvania and Philadelphia. Mr. Messa has successfully litigated multiple serious injury cases to seven- and eight-figure verdicts and settlements, in medical malpractice, products liability, fire and burn injury and construction/work injury matters.

Messa & Associates is Giving Eagles Tickets to One Lucky Winner!

To enter the contest, just like the [Messa & Associates Facebook](#) page anytime between now and October 12th. You'll be entered in a drawing to win two tickets to an Eagles game. It's that easy!



Recent Settlements and Verdicts

Confidential

\$375,000 settlement for a man who suffered injuries as a result of treatment he received while going through rehabilitation for a surfing accident. The man, who was rendered a quadriplegic as a result of injuries unrelated to this case, developed a pressure ulcer while under the care of medical professionals. The Plaintiffs argued that his condition was worsened by the lack of proper equipment and care he received while being treated at the rehab facility. The Plaintiff's ulcer ultimately progressed into a Stage 4 wound resulting in the development of osteomyelitis. He required several surgical procedures, including debridements, and diverting colostomy and is at an increased risk of recurring decubiti and other medical issues as a result of the Defendants' negligence.

Attorneys for Mothers Who Took Zoloft While Pregnant File Lawsuits



Attorneys have filed nineteen cases against Pfizer on behalf of mothers claiming their children suffered from birth defects due to Zoloft they were prescribed while pregnant.

In the lawsuit, which also names Roerig, a division of Pfizer, Inc., and Greenstone, LLC as defendants, the women allege that they took Zoloft as prescribed by treating physicians while pregnant.

The minor plaintiffs, children of the nineteen mothers, were born with various congenital defects, such as atrial septal defect; multiple holes in the heart and/or began to suffer from persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn; neural tube defects; craniofacial defects; and other adverse malformations, according to the suits.

The lawsuits state that Pfizer and other defendants knew or should have known about the potential birth defects that Zoloft could cause to their unborn children. According to the lawsuits filed, the women and their attorneys claim the drug is defective; dangerous to human health; unfit and unsuitable to be marketed and sold; and lacks the proper warnings as to the dangers associated with its use.

Messa & Associates has handled dozens of cases involving birth injuries and death related to the use of drug and pharmaceutical products. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury as a result a defective drug or pharmaceutical product, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

Consumer News: *The Recall Report*

GE is recalling approximately 1.3 million dishwashers because of a fire hazard. GE, GE Adora, GE Eterna, GE Profile and Hotpoint dishwashers have heating elements that can fail and cause fires. So far, there have been seven reports of fires.

The dishwashers were sold nationwide from March 2006 through August 2009 for \$350 to \$850. The Consumer Product Safety Commission advised consumers to stop using the dishwashers and immediately disconnect the electric supply by shutting off the fuse or circuit breaker.

Messa & Associates has handled dozens of cases involving injuries and death related to the use of defective products and products that cause fires and burn injuries. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury as a result a recalled product, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

Back to School Safety Tips

It's that time again! In just a few weeks, kids will head back to school. Here are a few reminders from *Safe Kids USA* to help keep your child safe.

- Drivers should be alert on residential streets and school zones.
- Look out for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- Use caution when entering and exiting driveways and alleys.
- Watch for children on and near the road in the morning and after school hours.
- **Do not** drive distracted. **Don't talk or text while driving!**
- Teach your child to cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks and to cross with an adult.
- Tell your child to walk in front of the bus so the driver can see them and not to run in the street or cross between parked cars.

"We know you want and *deserve* the best when it comes to representation.
At Messa & Associates, It's Always Been About Our Clients."



For more information, please call 877-MessaLaw or email GHightower@MessaLaw.com