



DAVIS LAW GROUP News

A Newsletter Published by Davis Law Group, P.S., Seattle, WA
Representing Washington Accident Victims & Families Affected By Wrongful Death

**Summer
Issue**

In This Issue

**Celebrate With
Safety - 9 Tips For
Summer Festivities**

**Cell Phone Use
While Driving Now
Primary Offense**

**Scholar Athletes of
the Year!**

**June is National
Safety Month**

Downtown

2101 Fourth Avenue
Suite 630
Seattle, WA 98121
206.727.4000

We also have locations in...

**Bellevue, Renton
& Mercer Island**



FREE BOOKS
VISIT THE WEBSITE...

www.DavisLawGroupSeattle.com

info@InjuryTrialLawyer.com
206.727.4000



9 Tips To Ensure an Exciting & Safe 4th of July

Celebrate With Safety

The 4th of July is one of most nationally celebrated holidays in the United States. Each year, we get together with family and friends and celebrate our country's Independence with fireworks, barbecues and pool parties. Unfortunately, for many families the celebration is cut short as each year thousands of people are sent to the hospital because of fireworks, overconsumption of alcohol, swimming accidents or other unsafe holiday practices.

There are many ways to avoid harm this year and ensure that your 4th of July celebration is safe, fun and memorable. Here are nine can't miss tips to ensure you and your family stay safe this year.

1 Put down the Firecrackers and Enjoy the show: In Seattle, Bellevue, Renton and Shoreline, fireworks are banned entirely. So instead of putting yourself in harm's way with the law and physical injury, enjoy the public displays that take place in either in Elliot Bay, Gasworks Park or in your local community. If fireworks are still legal in your area and you choose to light them off, keep children away at all times and keep spectators at a safe distance. Attending fireworks displays organized by professionals is always safer and less work than trying to put on your own show.

2 Celebrate Responsibly: On holidays, the temptation always exists to have one too many drinks with your family and friends. Unfortunately, and as many of you well know, that is when accidents tend to take place. By being responsible with your alcohol consump

Continued on Page 3...

Washington State Makes Cell Phone Use While Driving A Primary Offense

In the State of Washington, driving while talking on a cell phone is becoming a primary offense with a serious fine. Governor Christine Gregoire has signed into effect a Senate Bill making cell phone use without a hands free device while driving illegal. "This is a public safety issue," Gregoire said just before signing the bill in late March.

Senate Bill 6345 will officially make text messaging and cell phone use without a hands free device a primary offense which will be coupled with a \$124 fine in Washington State. By making text messaging and cell phone use a primary offense it allows officers to pull a driver over and ticket them simply for using their phone while driving.



In the past, talking or texting while driving have been considered a secondary offense, which means that an officer cannot legally pull someone over for simply talking on the phone while driving. Instead, if a driver was speeding or ran a red light and was also talking on the cell phone, both actions were punishable.

Continued on Page 3...



Scholar Athletes of the Year Alexis Court & Hunter Colegrove with Chris Davis and the Davis Law Group Scholar Athlete Team



DAVIS LAW GROUP



SCHOLAR ATHLETE PROGRAM

Scholar Athlete Banquet An Overwhelming Success

The first annual Davis Law Group Scholar Athlete Banquet was a resounding success. Ninety student-athletes and guests enjoyed the spectacular views from the Columbia Tower Club high above downtown Seattle. A red-carpet reception welcomed visitors

speakers at the event which highlighted the extraordinary accomplishments of 30 Seattle area high school seniors. Jennings encouraged all of the athletes to “hold their heads high, and never give up on a dream.”

Scholar Athlete of the Year awards were presented to Hunter Colegrove of Bonney Lake High School and Alexis Court of Liberty High School. Both have excelled in the classroom as well as on the field of play. We can expect great things from both of these truly gifted and accomplished young people.

It is our hope that the Davis Law Group Scholar Athlete Program will continue to build a foundation for inspiring elite performance among high school student athletes from around the Seattle area.

Hunter Colegrove is a three sport varsity athlete played Varsity Football, Basketball and Track and carried a 3.8 GPA while taking mostly AP classes throughout high school. He has

served as captain of the Football and Track team and has received awards including 1st Team All League Special Teams (SPSL), Honorable Mention All League Linebacker, and Special Teams Player of the Year. He has also received The ‘Heart of the Panther’ award, a select coach’s award given to one player from each varsity team at Bonney Lake High School who epitomizes the school motto “strength of mind, excellence of character.”



Chris Davis & Q13 Fox's Bill Wixey

and provided the perfect opportunity for winners to be photographed with Davis Law Group founder Chris Davis, Q13 Fox news anchor Bill Wixey and with special guest Kelly Jennings of the Seattle Seahawks. Wixey and Jennings were also featured



From left to right: Seahawk Kelly Jennings, Hunter Colegrove, Alexis Court, Chris Davis

One reason Hunter works so hard may be because of his mother's battle with cancer when he was a high school freshman. Hunter will be attending the University of Washington in the fall, which is a dream come true for him. He plans to study Ophthalmology or some other form of medicine and in doing so will be the first in his family to graduate from college.

Alexis Court is a scholar athlete that has consistently excelled in soccer, basketball and softball for her high school all while maintaining excellent grades. Her ability to balance her school work and athletics all while being the ASB president is truly remarkable. She has also served twice as 2010 class president and has been team captain for both soccer and fastpitch softball teams the last two years. She is the LINK Crew Vice President, Spirit Club Vice President, and is a member of such organizations as the 'Be The Change Club,' Yearbook, and Key Club. She has been a member of the National Honor Society for that last 4 years, and has volunteered for the American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, and as an Athletes For Kids Mentor.

Alexis will also be attending the University of Washington next fall and has plan to possibly pursue Neurobiology. Liberty High School Dean of Students, Dana Greenberg, concludes, "She provides... leadership, enthusiasm and energy. Alexis is a student leader that everyone admires and wonders, 'How does she do it all?'"

Cell Phone Law Continued...

From Page 1... There are some exceptions for this law. Exempt are transit and emergency vehicle personnel, as well as anyone who is text messaging or calling and not using a headset to report illegal activity or summon emergency help. People who are using a hearing aid or operating a tow truck are also exempt.

Statistics have shown that drivers who are handling a cell phone, whether text messaging, dialing, or just holding a cell phone increase their chance of being in an accident exponentially. In a study done by Virginia Tech University, 80% of drivers who had been in an accident were admittedly distracted at the time of the accident, with the main driving distraction being cell phones.

By putting this law into effect, Washington joins California, New Jersey and Oregon in the list of states making texting and talking without a headset a primary offense. More than a dozen states have passed laws regulating cell phone use by drivers but only four have made cell phone use a primary offense.

From Page 1... tion, you can greatly reduce your own chance of being injured and possibly help prevent injuries to others.

3 Review Boating Laws and Codes: Lakes, waterways and even the Puget Sound will be crowded with boats, especially if the weather is nice. **DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE YOUR BOAT.** The state of Washington is cracking down and handing out more BUI (Boating Under the Influence) each year. You will also be putting yourself, your family and others in danger as well as your boat. In addition, make sure that you have enough life jackets and that your boat is up to code. If you are pulled over and your boat does not meet regulations, you may face serious fines.

4 Keep Children away from campfires and grills: Each year, many young children are burned from touching a hot grill or falling into a campfire. This is traumatic for both the child and the parents. To make sure this doesn't happen, pay extra close attention to where your children are when having a campfire and make sure that your children understand the dangers of touching grills and the necessity of practicing safe habits around campfires.

5 Keep your dog on a leash: One of the best parts about the weather being nice is the dog can finally participate in family's outdoor activities. However, in situations such as the 4th of July, there will be many strange people and sounds around that your pet will not recognize. Studies have shown when animals are outside of their comfort zone, they are most likely to bite someone. This year, keep Fido close to familiar faces and on a leash.

6 Swim Safety: 4th of July's two deadliest activities, swimming and fireworks accidents, are also the most common. Make sure that no one swims alone, and that all young children are properly supervised. A large majority of swimming accidents take place when there are parents are nearby but aren't paying close attention. This year, be sure that there is at least one designated chaperon paying close attention at all times.

7 Stay Hydrated: When the weather is warm and alcohol is being consumed, it is easy to become dehydrated. If you are doing anything strenuous such as swimming, playing volleyball or just standing on your feet all day, put extra emphasis on drinking water in order to avoid dehydration, heat exhaustion, or even heat stroke.

8 Cover Food and Beverages: Although leaving food out for people to snack on all day may seem efficient, the truth is that you will only be inviting bees and other creepy crawlers to a free meal. After eating, make sure that everything is covered and put away. It is easier to get food out of the fridge or cooler a few times than to have to get rid of bees and carpenter ants.

9 Apply Sunscreen Multiple Times: If you or your kids are swimming and playing games, chances are the sunscreen you have applied will wear off quickly. Sun burns can be extremely uncomfortable and ruin anyone's holiday fun. The best way to combat this is by applying sunscreen multiple times.

4th of July Safety Tips Continued...



DAVIS LAW GROUP, P.S.

2101 Fourth Avenue
Suite 630
Seattle, WA 98121

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MAIL WORKS II



Founder &
Principal Attorney
Chris Davis

2010
CHRIS DAVIS is one of the...
Super Lawyers
According to: WASHINGTON
LAW & POLITICS
MAGAZINE
For The
FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR!

206.727.4000
www.DavisLawGroupSeattle.com



Facebook.com/SeattleInjuryLawyer
Facebook.com/SeattleCarAccidentAttorney

June Is National Safety Month!

Each June, the National Safety Council sponsors the National Safety Month. There are so many different aspects to being safe and living a healthy lifestyle that we all too often forget or do not take into account. This year's topics are engaging, meaningful, and relevant.



The **FIRST WEEK** is devoted to prescription drug overdose, which is aimed at preventing accidental overdoses on drugs that have been legitimately prescribed. Unintentional overdose from over-the-counter, prescription and illegal drugs is the second leading cause of preventable death in the United States.



The **SECOND WEEK** is for teen driving safety. Car accidents are the leading cause of death for teens 15-19 years old. By taking certain steps and engaging teen drivers, teen deaths are possible to prevent.



WEEK THREE is devoted to overexertion at work and at home. Finding a balance between your work life and personal life is key to living a healthy lifestyle.

WEEK FOUR is devoted to one of the hottest and most dangerous topics in our country right now- cell phone use while driving, which has recently been changed to a primary offense and coupled with a \$124 fine in Washington State.



The **FINAL DAYS** are devoted to summer safety. Summertime is the best time to be out and active, but failing to take the proper steps to cool yourself down when it's too hot out can be very harmful.



Visit...
www.NSC.org/NSC_events/Nat_Safe_Month
...for more information.

