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**DAVIS LAW GROUP**  
**News**

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



Happy Halloween from Jackson and Friends!

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FALL EDITION

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**Medical Mistakes in the News**

Seattle Children's hospital has been under fire for four different medical malpractice cases that have occurred in the last six months, two of which resulted in patient death. These tragedies echo the wrongful death of Michael Blankenship, a 15-year-old boy who passed away over a year ago after being wrongfully prescribed a high-dose pain patch called Fentanyl. Blankenship had been admitted to Seattle Children's for routine dental surgery, but because he was autistic, was prescribed the Fentanyl patch as an alternative to oral or injected pain medication. Michael's mother, Tammy Jarbo-Blankenship even made inquiries to the prescribing dentist, the resident dentist, the discharge nurse, the pharmacy technician and the head pharmacist at the hospital about the medication. Despite her persistence her son was still prescribed a pain medication that is normally meant for people who are used to taking long-term narcotics. After the wrongful death of her young son, Jarbo-Blankenship hired Seattle attorney Chris Davis to help with her case. When Komo 4 News asked Davis about the recent tragedies at Children's Hospital he voiced his sadness stating that "here we are 18 months later and it's happening again".

normally narrow heart-valve opening, and peripheral pulmonary stenosis, abnormally narrow blood vessels in the lungs. A catheter is inserted through the groin with a small balloon at the tip that is used to open the vessels while it travels up through the lungs. Unfortunately, during the procedure the pressure from the balloon caused Osman's vein to burst and fill his lungs with blood resulting in permanent brain damage. Fueled by the vague answers from Children's Hospital about his son's case,



Osman's father wrote the Department of Health and the state's Medical Quality Assurance Commission has just started investigating the choice of the procedure, how it was done, and the care that was provided after the aneurysm was detected.

The first wrongful death since Michael Blankenship's occurred on September 15, 2010 when eight-month old Kaia Zautner, who was already suffering from heart problems and recovering from multiple surgeries when she was incorrectly administered 10 times the proper dose of a medication called calcium chloride. Her weakened immune system could not handle the added stress and she died five days later after suffering a brain hemorrhage.

Only two days after Zautner's incident, newborn Avery Plaster was being transported to Children's from Evergreen Hospital when she was administered medication that had not been previously approved by

The first questionable case occurred February 7, 2010 when two year-old Osman Ali underwent a risky procedure to treat for supra-valvular aortic stenosis, an ab-

**Santa's Lawyer is Sending FREE Santa Letters!**



Did you know that Seattle attorney Chris Davis is Santa's lawyer? Yes, even Santa Claus needs a good attorney now and then. Remember the song "Grandma got run over by a reindeer"? Who do you think helped him out of that mess?

Because Chris has such a good relationship with old St. Nick, Davis Law Group is able to give a special gift to our friends and clients this year. As a holiday gift we would like to send a special child in your life a complimentary letter from Santa.

**Yes, we are sending FREE Santa letters!!**

Each letter will be customized with the child's name, hometown, and a desired present. And we even give you the option of adding a few custom sentences of your own to the letter.

Letters are sent on authentic-looking Santa stationary in a colorful holiday envelope that is post-marked from North Pole, Alaska. And each letter is signed by Santa Claus. See example on the left.

Visit [Santa.DavisLawGroupSeattle.com](http://Santa.DavisLawGroupSeattle.com) for full details

It's that time again...  
Nominate a deserving business for BBB's 2011 Business of the Year Torch Award! Any for-profit business, regardless of size or industry, may be nominated. Businesses will be judged in customer service, community involvement, and innovative business practices. Who will you recognize?  
**Nominate Today!**  
[www.bbb.org/boyawards](http://www.bbb.org/boyawards)  
Get your nominations in by December 1, 2010.  
2011 Business of the Year torch awards

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Sponsored by the American Lawyer Academy, the Viral Video Scholarship Contest™ was created as a community service project to help educate the public on safe driving practices by awarding a scholarship to the film student or video production enthusiast who creates the best public announcement viral video.

**\$25,000 in Scholarships!**

**SUBJECT/THEME**

Safe Driving: Don't Drive While Distracted

Video can cover distracted driving issues such as texting while driving, using a cell phone while driving, eating while driving, distracted by passengers, etc.

**Contest Rules & Submission Guidelines**

For specific contest rules and submission guidelines visit [viralvideofilmcontest.com](http://viralvideofilmcontest.com)



[www.ViralVideoFilmContest.com](http://www.ViralVideoFilmContest.com)

**Observing Veterans Days**

November 11 of each year is the day that we ensure veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made to keep our country free. We should take a moment and thank every veteran in our lives that have made these scarifies.

We here at the Davis Law Group want to wish the veterans and active troops overseas a Happy Holiday season! We appreciate your service. Your self-sacrifice is making it possible for us to be home celebrating the holiday's in safety.

**Photo on the Right:** Last month, Jackson Davis had a chance to visit his Uncle, Major William Weedman, US Army, before his recent deployment.



**Children's continued...**

a licensed medical provider and died soon after. Her cause of death is still unknown but the incorrectly administered medication may not be responsible.

The latest incident happened on September 25, 2010 when a 23-year-old man was admitted to Children's with life-threatening respiratory failure and was incorrectly administered epinephrine through an IV. It was later admitted that the proper procedure would have been to administer the medication as an injection instead of intravenously.

The alarming rate at which these cases have occurred has raised many issues with the safety of Seattle Children's Hospital. Medical director Dr. David Fisher insists that "Children's is safe", and adds that their "patients are complex" and that unfortunately, human error can occur, especially in a large facility that treats "1,000 of the sickest and most vulnerable kids every day". He goes on to assure the public that there is no systemic problem at Children's but that they failed in their effort "to provide safe care" and are "devastated" by the recent events. Even though the hospital claimed that it changed its guidelines to prevent accidental overdoses after what happened to Michael Blankenship they have recently clarified that those changes were for opiates, not routine medications. Chris Davis told Kiro 7 news that the problem is that the state gets the reports but has little authority to investigate them because "there's really no teeth, enforcement teeth, behind it."



In response to the recent tragedies, Seattle Children's Hospital released a letter stating the changes that they were going to make to their policies concerning the safety process and how their high risk medicine is regulated and administered. Insisting that providing a safe and healing environment is the greatest priority, Children's is committed to identifying and fixing the gaps in their medication process to prevent any more tragedies from occurring.



**Know an outstanding student athlete?**

[www.ScholarAthleteProgram.com](http://www.ScholarAthleteProgram.com)

Do you know a high school senior who is an outstanding student athlete and deserves recognition for their performance both on the field and in the classroom? Nominate them to be next week's Davis Law Group Scholar Athlete of the Week! Award recipients will receive a \$100 scholarship and become eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship presented at the end of the year to one male and one female Davis Law Group Scholar Athlete of the Year.



**Kevin Sharp of Bellevue Christian School - 10/4**

Kevin is a dedicated athlete that participates in Shudokan Karate. He has demonstrated his excellence to the sport by achieving the rank of Nidan at the age of seventeen. Along with achieving this impressive rank, Kevin selflessly gives back to the community and his dojo by volunteering to assist teachers, participating in judging competitions and teaches self-defense basics to organizations outside of the dojo. Kevin has volunteered over 400 hours in 2010 alone.

Kevin attended a summer program at American University in Washington DC and is now considering a degree in Law. He is currently in the process of applying for admission to Whitman, Gonzaga and Seattle University.

**Erin Hunt of Kentlake High School - 10/17**

Erin is a three year varsity basketball player and a team captain. She is also a former two year varsity soccer player. Erin demonstrates natural leadership among her teammates. Along with her amazing athletic abilities, she also shows dedication to her studies. She has a strong desire to become a bio medical engineer and has attended a summer engineering camp the last two years.

Her coach, Scott Simmons quotes, "Erin Hunt is one of the rare people in this world that is not afraid to take on any kind of challenge. She shows class, leadership, and respect in everything she does."



**Aly Weir of Cascade High School - 10/27**

"Aly is an extremely talented and hard working student," Her teacher, David Hasting, quotes. "In many ways she is truly a 'Renaissance Woman'; she is a scholar, an athlete and an artist."

Aly participates in a number of activities at school. She is captain of her Cross Country team, a varsity Basketball player and ASB Treasurer. She was also sophomore class Secretary, cabinet member for her class the last two years, the Silver Key Scholastic Award winner for art, an AP scholar and has received a total of 13 varsity athletic letters. She is also active in "Relay for Life and a counselor at her church's Vacation Bible School.