



NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH: SPREADING AWARENESS OF SAFETY AND HEALTH RISKS FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE WORKPLACE

National Safety Month was created by The National Safety Council (NSC) in 1996, aiming to spread awareness of safety and health risks for employees in the workplace environment. Since then, the NSC encourages workers and companies to bring safety awareness to the workplace environment.

In 2020 the NSC reported almost 201,000 injury-related deaths in the workplace, a 16.1% increase compared previously. Unfortunately, the numbers are still growing and with the pandemic new challenges arose.

Every year the NSC offers materials to employers to encourage the education of safety in the workplace.

This month's theme: **Musculoskeletal Disorder, workplace impairment, injury prevention, and slips, trips, and falls.**

Musculoskeletal Disorders affects your joints, muscles, and bones and are the biggest cause of workplace injury worldwide.

Workplace impairment can be anything that impedes the worker to have abilities to function as usual. Workplace impairment can be linked to the use of illegal substances, chemicals inhaled at the workplace, mental distress, and social and physical factors have also been linked to workplace impairment.

Injury prevention is important to implement prevention programs in the workplace to improve health and safety conditions for the workers. Millions of injuries happen at the workplace every year and a big amount of them can be avoided with prevention programs that educate and help workers and employers.

Slips, trips, and falls NSC points out that in In 2020, 42,114 people died in falls at home and at work making it the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for this reason this year.

We encourage you to find Workplace Safety Resources by visiting nsc.org/workplace

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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- Juul's E-Cigarette Banned in the US
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
- Settlements and Verdicts
- Stopping by the firm and wondering where to grab lunch?
- MDL Updates



"I learned the value of hard work by working hard."

Margaret Mead

Juul's E-Cigarette Banned in the US

On June 23rd, 2022 the FDA officially banned the selling of the e-cigarettes manufactured by the popular brand, Juul Labs Inc. The FDA stated that the vape product company is unable to show sufficient information about the toxicological profile of the products regarding the chemical ingredients that can be harmful to public health.



This is not the first time that Juul Labs is facing scrutiny. As recently as April, a lawsuit was settled against them claiming that the company intentionally targeted teenagers with their products.

Juul products among other e-cigarette brands are causing lung damage and users are being diagnosed with EVALI, a medical condition in which inflammation occurs in the lungs caused in response to the use of inhaled substances. Vitamin E acetate is the substance most associated with EVALI but is not the only one. Other chemicals like triglycerides, plant oils, diluent terpenes, and petroleum distillates were also found in some of the patients' samples.

In 2020, the CDC stated there were almost 3,000 EVALI cases and 68 reported deaths.

When e-cigarettes were first introduced in 2007, they were marketed as a solution for conventional cigarette smokers. Now children are dying from the use of the product, including a 15-year-old boy who passed in 2020 after a vaping lung injury.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June 15 was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), an initiative that was launched to acknowledge the abuse and neglect of older people within your community.

In the US, approximately one in 10 elders have experienced abuse or neglect and around five million elders are abused every year. Within those five million, it is estimated that only one in 24 cases are reported to authorities. Between 2020 and 2021 the reports of elder abuse Statewide totaled 39,820 showing an increase of 63% over the past five years. The most common perpetrator are family members (47%) followed by caretakers (35%).

According to the USC Center for Elder Justice, this day is to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of the elderly community by "raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect."



Settlements and Verdicts

- Confidential seven figure settlement for child who lost part of their pinky
- \$325K recovery after disabled woman fell and broke her leg when in the care of a facility

Stopping by the firm and wondering where to grab lunch? Here are our votes!

**Mix
Bar & Grill**

**Shake
Shack**

**Coventry
Deli**

**Good Day
Deli**

**Vic Sushi
Bar**

**Monde
Market**



MDL Updates



CPAP: At the beginning of June, an order was issued appointing Judge Diane M. Welsh to serve as the settlement mediator in the litigation. This does not necessarily mean that any settlement will be happening in the near future, Philips will most likely push off any offer until closer to the two-year statute of limitations point for older claims. There has been more discovery in the lawsuit that brought forward internal documents proving that Philips knew about the issues for 3 years prior to announcing the recall.



Zantac: The bellwether test trails are still on track to begin in October of this year. A judge has recently granted a motion by the plaintiffs allowing the MDL plaintiffs one hour of questions at the deposition of a Sanofi IT employee who is believed to have deleted internal emails that could affect the case.



3M: The settlement conference for 3M lawsuit is set for July 15, 2022. Currently, there are about 233,000 cases against 3M for the defective earplugs and can be expected to go to trial in their home districts in blocks of 500 lawsuits at a time.



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA

Boy Scouts of America: Two Massachusetts Boy Scouts camps are being sold to help pay for the lawsuit settlements. The real estate only makes up a small fraction of the settlement at \$6.45 million when the current proposed settlement is \$2.6 billion

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