

The Road To Justice Starts Here



**PURCHASE GEORGE
& MURPHEY P.C.**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Car & Truck Accidents | Civil Litigation | Medical Malpractice | DUI | Criminal Defense

what's inside

page 2

August 2018 –
important dates

Did you know? . . .

page 3

We are 100% super!

The chilling history
of ice cream

page 4

Keep swimming pool
season fun and safe

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AUTO ACCIDENTS AND traumatic brain injuries

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are responsible for the deaths of approximately 50,000 Americans each year and the hospitalizations of roughly 230,000 more. Many more victims go undiagnosed.

Auto accidents are one of the leading causes of TBI. Most TBIs are closed head injuries, which means that trauma sets the brain in motion inside the skull. The brain gets slammed against the interior surface of the skull, resulting in contusions and swelling.

Trauma can also initiate rotational forces that twist and stretch the brain, which can damage axons. Brain neurons send messages via electrical impulses; axons are the carriers of these impulses. When axons are damaged, brain function is diminished.

A condition called diffuse axonal injury (DAI) occurs on a cellular level and leaves blood vessels and major brain structures intact. This type of damage cannot be detected by MRIs or CT scans, making DAI vastly underdiagnosed and undertreated.



Brain injuries are unlike injuries to other parts of the body. They not only have a physical component, they also affect the cognitive and emotional well-being of the victim. Impairments can be temporary or permanent, subtle or catastrophic.

It's important to note that low-impact auto accidents can result in TBI (e.g., concussion due to whiplash), not just high-impact ones. In addition, a person involved in a car crash may feel perfectly normal immediately following the incident; however, TBI symptoms might only present themselves hours, days, or weeks later.

If you have been involved in a car accident caused by the carelessness or inattention of another driver, get medical help and call us to protect your rights. ■

AUGUST 2018 – important dates

August 1 – National Night Out
(emphasis on building safer communities)

August 8 – International Cat Day

August 19 – National Aviation Day

August 25 – National Banana Split Day

August 26 – Dog Appreciation Day



did you know? . . .

The phrase “dog days of summer” was coined by the ancient Romans to describe the hottest, most oppressive days of summer—covering most of July and roughly half of August. Contrary to popular belief, it has nothing to do with sluggish, panting canines dealing with extreme summer heat.

Sirius (the Dog Star) is part of the constellation Canis Major (meaning the “greater dog”) and the brightest star in the night sky. In late summer in the Northern Hemisphere, Sirius appears in the east before sunrise, near our sun. Because Sirius is so luminescent, ancient Romans believed it added heat to the sun’s rays, raising temperatures to uncomfortable levels (the tilt of the earth during summer is the true culprit)—hence, the dog days of summer. ■



we are 100% super!

Purchase, George & Murphey is pleased to announce that all three principals have been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers® list for 2018. Eric Purchase has been included for the past six years for Personal Injury. Tim George has been selected for each of the past three years for Criminal Defense. Craig Murphey has been listed as a Super Lawyer® annually since 2011. For 2018, he is recognized for his work in Personal Injury.

Super Lawyers

Super Lawyers® employs a three-step process to identify attorneys for inclusion on the annual list. Lawyers, like Eric, Tim, and Craig, are nominated by their peers or through third-party research. Super Lawyers® then applies 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Finalists for the designation are then submitted to a “Blue Ribbon Panel” of practitioners that rates candidates. Only those candidates receiving the top scores in each category are selected as Super Lawyers®. No more than the top 5% of all lawyers in Pennsylvania are selected for inclusion on the list.

The lawyers at Purchase, George & Murphey, P.C. help victims of accidents and medical malpractice. They also represent people and small businesses in contract, shareholder, and partnership disputes. In addition, they defend the rights of those accused of DUI and other criminal offenses. You can see what others say about us at www.YourErieLawyers.com or fill out our online contact form to get started on your case today. ■



THE CHILLING HISTORY OF ice cream

Ice cream as we know it today took shape in the 16th century, but the seeds for ice cream were planted several thousand years ago.

In roughly 1800 B.C., records show that in the state of Mari—now eastern Syria—ice and snow were collected and stored in ice houses for use in warmer months. Ice houses were built partially or fully underground

near ice and snow sources (e.g., rivers, lakes, mountains). Ice would be insulated with straw or sawdust, keeping it solid for many months.

Fruit juices, wine, honey, and nectar, among other ingredients, were added to crushed ice to create slushy-like treats that wowed elite society. Commoners were shut out until the 19th century.

In the 16th century, someone (they should be canonized) combined flavored ice with milk and cream. Not long after, sugar was introduced to the mix, creating a product that resembled what we know today. “Ice” combined with “cream” came to be known as “iced cream.”

During the colonial period, ice cream was introduced to the United States. George Washington reportedly spent \$200 on ice cream during the summer of 1790 (a large sum in those days). No wonder he had false teeth!

Around 1800, ice house insulation improved dramatically. As the century forged ahead, other technological advances, such as steam power, mechanical refrigeration, electric power, motors, and eventually the electrified freezing process (no ice necessary), enabled mass production of ice cream, making it accessible to all.

The 20th century saw the introduction of the banana split, ice cream cone, ice cream sundae, soft ice cream, and abundant new flavors. How will this century improve upon perfection? ■

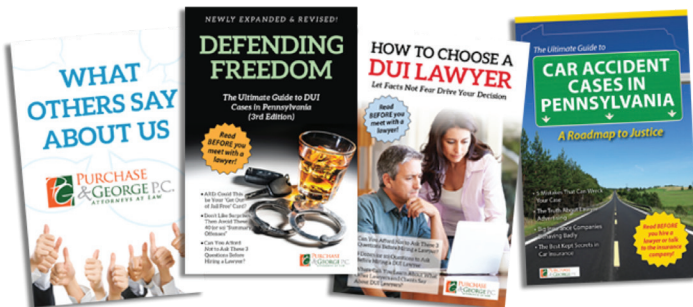


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KEEP SWIMMING POOL SEASON fun and safe



A refreshing dip in the pool is a good antidote for hot summer weather. But potential hazards could be lurking, and pool owners may be liable.

According to the federal government, drowning is the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1–14. And for every drowning, four other kids require ER care for nonfatal submersion injuries.

A pool owner has a duty to keep their pool well maintained to minimize the chance of injuries, and to alert patrons or guests to potential dangers that might not be obvious to the average person.

Owners of public and private pools are responsible for properly securing drains, which can cause severe injuries; maintaining ladders, diving boards, and slides; and mixing pool chemicals appropriately. Electrical defects, unsafe pool toys, and lack of supervision or safety equipment are potential liability issues as well.

Pool owners generally don't owe trespassers a duty of care, with one major exception: young children who don't understand the danger of drowning. In most states, owners are obligated to prevent access to their pools by means of proper fencing, locked gates, and pool safety covers, as a pool is considered "attractive" to young children ("attractive nuisance doctrine").

Manufacturers, sellers, or installers of pools or pool fixtures might also be liable for injuries caused by pool usage.

If you have a pool on your property, take the proper steps to avoid premises liability issues. If you or a family member has been injured at a pool due to negligence, contact us at (814) 833-7100 to protect your rights. ■

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