

# The Road To Justice Starts Here

June 2019



PURCHASE GEORGE  
& MURPHEY P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



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## REFERRALS

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## THE PERILS OF recorded statements

If you are the innocent victim in an auto accident, the other party's insurance company will be calling, requesting that you give a statement and likely wanting to record it. *Never agree to either without the guidance of an auto accident attorney.*

Insurance adjusters are loyal to their employers (the at-fault driver's insurance company) and not you. They're looking to deny claims, minimize compensation payouts, and/or shift blame.

You are under no legal obligation to give a statement, recorded or otherwise. And there's no upside to doing so. (An adjuster might dangle the carrot of receiving quicker payment – likely at an amount far below your case's value.)

Here's how recorded statements can harm claims:

- It is difficult, if not impossible, for people who have never been involved in the claims process to know how to present their claims, or even know what is important and ought to be described in a recorded statement. As a result, a recorded statement rarely includes all of the information that you want it to include, and everything the other guy's insurance company needs to devolve your claim.
- An adjuster may ask a claimant how they're feeling. A claimant who answers that question may come to regret it, as some injuries don't become evident



until days, even weeks, later. And once a recorded statement is taken, there are no do-overs.

- They can be compared with other statements a person makes, such as those with an investigating police officer or during a lawsuit deposition. Multiple statements made weeks or months apart may show inconsistencies (which isn't unusual). The opposition will seek to attack your credibility with the inconsistencies.

If you are injured in an auto accident, contact the auto accident attorneys at Purchase, George & Murphey, P.C. to protect your interests and preserve your rights. Learn more by getting our free book, *The Ultimate Guide to Car Accident Cases in Pennsylvania: A Roadmap to Justice (2nd Edition)*. We wrote a chapter on this subject! ■



# a stinging rebuke

During outdoor summertime activities, people may cross paths with bees, wasps, or hornets. As many can attest, they sting when threatened. The human body reacts to the venom in various ways. It's important to know the difference between a "normal" reaction and an allergic reaction.

All stings produce pain, swelling, redness, and itchiness. For those who are not allergic to bee stings, symptoms will remain at the site of the sting and typically clear up within a few hours. (A sting in the mouth or eye warrants immediate medical attention.) For some people, symptoms may linger for a few days, but they should not worsen. If redness or swelling covers an area several inches wide or more, play it safe by giving your doctor a call.

Anaphylaxis is a severe reaction to a bee sting and can be life-threatening. Additional sting symptoms may appear anytime within roughly two hours of the sting and occur away from the sting site. They include respiratory difficulty, trouble swallowing, and hives and/or swelling. **Seek medical help immediately.**

Remove a bee's stinger with the edge of a credit card or fingernail. Don't use tweezers or fingers, which can squeeze out more venom. A thorough washing, ice, over-the-counter pain reliever, cortisone cream, and/or Benadryl® may help relieve "normal" symptoms. Avoid scratching the sting site.

A person can develop a bee-sting allergy at any time in their life. They may have been stung 20 times previously without a problem, but there's no guarantee the 21st time will go as smoothly.

If you receive multiple stings, the sheer quantity of venom could cause a severe reaction. It's best to seek medical attention right away. ■

# those June weddings

June has earned the reputation of most popular wedding month in Western culture—for varied reasons.

In early Roman times, citizens held a festival in honor of the deity Juno, the goddess of marriage and childbirth. As you may have guessed, the month of June was named in her honor. A June wedding was considered auspicious.

May was also the month of "unhappy dead." Not exactly a ringing endorsement of May weddings. Many nuptials were pushed to June instead.

On the Celtic calendar, the first moon after June's summer solstice is called the strawberry moon. It also goes by "honey moon" due to its amber hue. A June wedding followed by a honey moon, sound familiar?

Over the centuries, June was also a month in which flowers would be in plentiful supply—a wedding prerequisite. Although vibrant and beautiful, their original purpose was to mask the unpleasant body odor of those whose bathing schedules weren't exactly full.

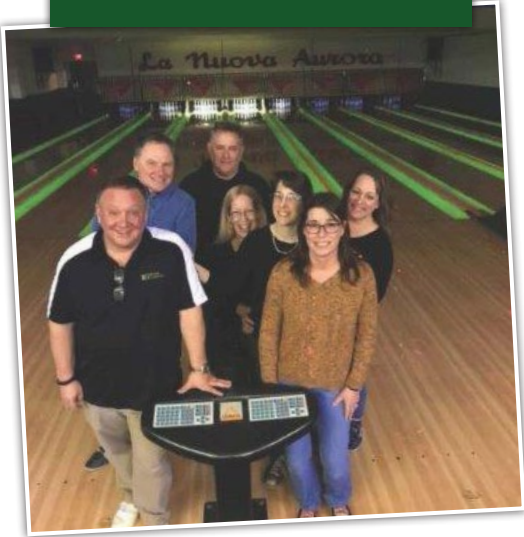
In more practical terms, especially in precontraceptive days, a June wedding would often lead to a spring childbirth, bolstering a newborn's chances of survival after a long, lean winter. A spring birth also afforded recovery time for the mother to be ready for the busy autumn harvest season.

These days, June is a good month for weddings since it's warm, but not too warm; there's more daylight; and school schedules are not a concern for travelers.

Although still ranking high, June's wedding popularity has been surpassed in recent years by October and September. But that's OK. When it comes to history, those months have a lot of catching up to do. ■



## PGM Having a Ball of a Time



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## DAD WHO EXPOSED COLLEGE BRIBERY RING WAS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR securities fraud

Apparently, the idea of cheating in order to get kids into an Ivy League college was a bridge too far for one proud Yale dad who was being investigated for a “pump-and-dump” investment scheme.

The Wall Street Journal reported that the whistleblower for the college-acceptance bribery scheme, in which dozens of wealthy families and celebrities allegedly bribed top colleges to accept their children, was Morrie Tobin, a Los Angeles financial executive. He reportedly told federal investigators of the scheme after a soccer coach at Yale allegedly offered to get his daughter in for a fee.



Mr. Tobin was being questioned in an alleged pump-and-dump investment scheme—in which people conspire to inflate the price of a stock so they can sell it at a profit—when he offered a tip to federal authorities in an effort to obtain leniency in the case against him.

After tipping off the feds, Tobin supposedly wore a wire to a meeting in a Boston hotel room with Rudy Meredith, the Yale soccer coach. A source told the WSJ that at the meeting, Meredith offered to get Tobin's daughter in in exchange for an illegal payment of \$450,000. Meredith has since agreed to cooperate with the investigation and has pled guilty to two counts of wire fraud. The rest has become the ongoing saga involving Lori Loughlin (“Aunt Becky”) and fellow actress Felicity Huffman as we know it today.

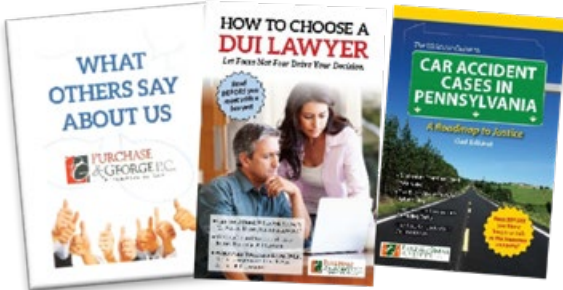
As for Tobin, he was charged in his own fraud case in November 2018. While in college, he played hockey for Yale. One of his daughters also graduated from the school, while two others are currently enrolled. ■

## June 2019 – Mark Your Calendars

June 1 – National Bubbly Day  
June 5 – National Running Day  
June 8 – National Upsy Daisy Day  
June 13 – National Kitchen Klutzes of America Day  
June 17 – National Eat Your Vegetables Day  
June 21 – Go Skateboarding Day  
June 23 – National Pink Day  
June 27 – National Sunglasses Day



## Free Books



This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

# trampoline park injuries

## INCREASING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS

The popularity of trampoline parks has soared in recent years. In 2011, there were an estimated 40 parks nationwide; today, there are over 800. That surge has placed a spotlight on trampoline park injuries, which range from minor sprains and strains, to fractures, dislocations, traumatic brain injuries, and spinal cord damage. The American Academy of Pediatrics reported that trampoline park incidents resulted in nearly 7,000 ER visits in 2014—and have surely risen since.

Three-quarters of injuries involve two or more individuals on a trampoline at the same time. Collisions, bad landings, falling or jumping off the trampoline, or landing on springs and frames precipitate most injuries. *According to the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics*, over one-third of injuries involve broken bones.

The trampoline park industry is largely unregulated, but premises liability law does require that trampoline parks take reasonable measures to keep patrons safe. That includes repairing and properly maintaining trampolines, blocking off unsafe areas, displaying usage rules near the trampolines, and posting trained attendants to enforce the rules.

Trampoline park visitors are required to sign liability waivers, which seemingly absolve the park of any responsibility for accidents and injuries. That may generally be the case for common, minor injuries (e.g., sprains and strains), but if a park is found negligent, a person sustaining a serious injury generally has the green light to hold the park accountable for the failure to take reasonable safety precautions and, seek compensation for harm. In addition, some states have ruled that minors cannot sign away their rights, even if a parent signed the waiver.

If you or a loved one is injured at a trampoline park, contact premises liability attorneys at Purchase, George & Murphey, P.C. to protect your rights. ■

