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POTENTIAL DAMAGES FROM A GEORGIA AUTO

ACCIDENT: It's more than just your pain and suffering

P2

What our clients are saying

King of the forest

Faq: Damaged objects

P3

Case recap

Pumping up the pancreas

P4

Why getting behind the wheel in Georgia may be a whole lot more dangerous than you ever could have imagined

If you've been injured in a serious Georgia car or truck wreck, pain and suffering are some of the most devastating harms that occur. These are the injuries that affect your quality of life; these are the injuries that affect the very essence of who you are. But a serious accident can impact you in many other ways as well—often in ways that you don't even realize.



The following list categorizes the different types of damages that may be available to you (in addition to pain and suffering) in the state of Georgia. This is not a comprehensive list, but merely a general list of damages that are allowed:

- medical bills (past, present and future)
- lost wages (past, present and future)
- lost earning capacity
- mental and emotional anguish
- impairment of bodily health and vigor
- disfigurement
- wrongful death; the financial assessment reflects both economic losses and non-economic losses
- humiliation, shock, fright
- aggravation of a pre-existing injury
- funeral expenses
- punitive damages
- loss of consortium
- interference with normal living
- interference with enjoyment of life
- confinement – actual and/or a fear of future confinement
- lifetime limits on activities
- injury to peace, happiness, or feelings

It is critical that you receive a comprehensive evaluation of the harm you have experienced or will experience. Your lawyer must be able to determine what an appropriate settlement and jury verdict would be with respect to the injuries you have suffered. We at the Dover Law Firm have handled thousands of cases and have experience in properly evaluating an injury claim. ■

WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING

Dover Law Firm had the expertise to handle my case, and they did all of the leg work. All communication with them was handled promptly and with respect and consideration. Lindsay and Sara were awesome and kept me informed! I will recommend my family and friends to the Dover Law Firm because of the level of courtesy and professional services provided.

Keisha McClure
Sandy Springs, GA

King of the forest

The rugged mountains of the Sierra Nevada provide refuge to the Earth's largest living creature: the giant sequoia. These trees invoke wonder and awe in anyone fortunate enough to behold them, attaining heights of greater than 250 feet and trunk diameters of 30 feet.



Sequoias can live for thousands of years, with the oldest recorded tree age exceeding 3,500 years—think prior to the days of Moses...now that's old. Their stoutness can be attributed to their heartwood and bark (sometimes two feet thick), which are infused with tannic acid and other chemicals that guard against fungal rot and other diseases. Wood-boring beetles are of no consequence; their girth renders the wind a moot point; even lightning, though it can cause damage, will generally not kill a sequoia.

Giant sequoias are also flame resistant and in fact are aided greatly by ground fires. Fires clear out competitors, enabling sequoia seeds to take root. The rising heat from fire dries out the cones of the sequoia, releasing seeds by the millions. Sunlight and ash serve as a rich nutrient base, giving new sequoias the start in life they need.

Many sequoias were chopped down in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but their abundant wood did not provide the value that loggers sought. Not long after, someone came up with the following equation: Awesome visual + tourists = money.

Though other countries have adopted giant sequoia trees, the 77 groves in the Sierra Nevada mountains covering an area of 48,000 acres are the only place these giants are native to and where they reproduce naturally. If you're in that neck of the woods, check them out. You can't miss them! ■

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Q: My iPad and GPS were in my car and were both damaged when I was in a wreck. Can I be reimbursed for them?

A: You are entitled to be reimbursed by the insurance company under your property damage claim for items damaged in an auto wreck. The most important thing is to be able to provide the documentation necessary to get that reimbursement.

You'll want to take photos of the damaged objects and provide documentation of the price of the damaged items. This can be done through a receipt or by going online and showing what the cost of the iPad or GPS would be. Typically that is enough information for the insurance company to complete their file and get you reimbursed.

You also want to make sure you don't sign off on your property damage claim until all of those damaged items have been accounted for first. ■



CASE RECAP

Client Tried to Take on the Insurance Company on His Own but Then Turned to the Dover Law Firm for Help

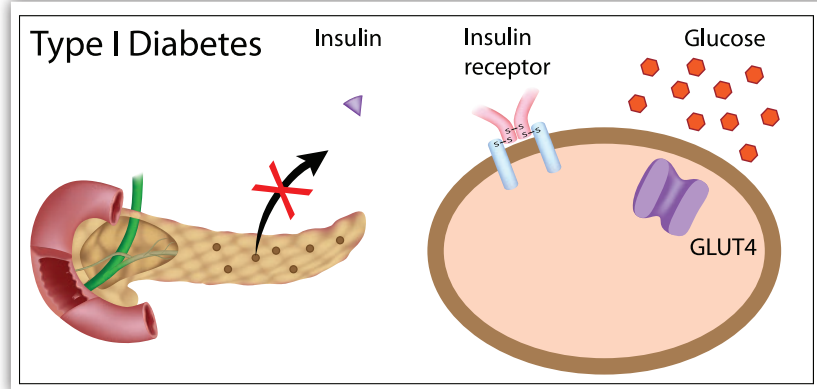
Our client was involved in a serious car accident on a rural highway and had tried to resolve his claim on his own with the at-fault driver's insurance company.

He finally contacted the firm after the at-fault driver's insurance company failed to deliver on paying his medical bills as they had promised. His case was complicated by the fact that years ago he had suffered a back injury, which was significantly worsened by the car wreck.

Because of this the insurance company wanted to pay nothing, arguing that his injury was pre-existing. The firm went to action on the case and ultimately filed a lawsuit. Within days after the suit was filed, the insurance company tendered the money our client deserved. ■

Pumping up the pancreas

For people who have type 1 diabetes, the pancreas doesn't produce insulin, a hormone that helps the body convert sugar (glucose) into energy. When the body lacks it, blood-sugar levels elevate and can lead to heart disease and a host of other health issues.



Type 1 diabetics currently need to inject themselves with insulin several times a day or utilize a pump attached to a narrow tube that penetrates the surface of the skin, providing a steady, low flow of insulin. The patient must vigilantly monitor their blood-sugar levels throughout the day and deliver more insulin as needed to prevent high blood-sugar levels, such as at mealtime.

One particular hazard for type 1 diabetics is too much insulin in the body overnight, when blood-sugar levels naturally decrease. Too much insulin in the body can result in seizures, falling into a coma, and even death.

However, an artificial pancreas that utilizes “smart pump” technology may be on the horizon. The system includes an insulin pump, software, and sensors that track blood-sugar levels and can shut off automatically when levels dip too low (hypoglycemia). In a recent study published in the New England Journal of Medicine that involved 247 test subjects over a three-month span, hypoglycemic events were reduced by 32 percent, and duration and severity by 38 percent.

The system is being reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. If/when approved, the next step would be to develop an artificial pancreas that can monitor and react immediately to low and high blood-sugar levels, releasing insulin or shutting it off as needed.

If this goal is realized, diabetic patients everywhere will rejoice. ■

LEGAL TERMS EXPLAINED: Standard of care

Standard of care is a term used to describe what most doctors would agree reflects the degree of care and skill that a reasonable and competent physician should exercise in the care of a patient. If a doctor fails to abide by the standard of care and causes harm or injury to a patient, the doctor may be guilty of medical malpractice. ■



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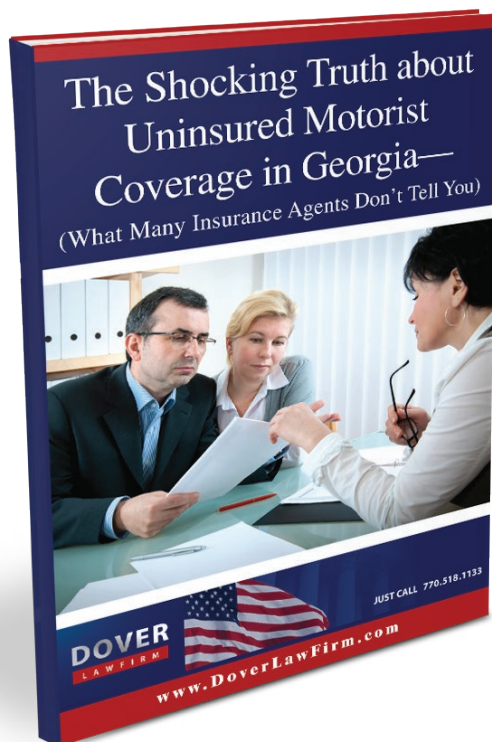
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Potential Damages. See p. 1.

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.

WHY GETTING BEHIND THE WHEEL IN GEORGIA MAY BE A whole lot more dangerous than you ever could have imagined



Unfortunately, there's a bit of an epidemic going on here in the Peach State...an epidemic of drivers operating their vehicles with little or no insurance. While that may not seem like such a big deal at first blush, if you are ever involved in a serious accident with an uninsured driver, your life (and your family's financial security) can be turned upside down in an instant.

Find out why and what you can do to protect yourself in this critical new special report from the Dover Law Firm. Download it for FREE at DoverLawFirm.com. ■