

PERSONAL INJURY NEWS YOU CAN USE

Dog Bites. Even Man's Best Friend Can Have a Bad Day.

According to the American Veterinary Association, each year, more than 4.5 million people in the U.S. are bitten by dogs. Almost 1 in 5 require medical attention. Every year, more than 800,000 Americans receive care for dog bites.

“Dog Biting” is frequently a source of humor in cartoons, TV and movies. However, for the hundreds-of-thousands of people that have been injured, it’s no laughing matter. It can also be a responsible pet owner’s worst nightmare

whether or not the owner had reason to think the dog was dangerous. As an example, in West Virginia, Code § 19-20-13 has a specific statute that covers some dog bite cases, while other cases are governed by the state's common (or court-made) law.

Prevention

No reasonable person wants to be on either side of a dog-bite lawsuit. That is why it is very important to protect yourself and your pet. Tips include training and socialization, make sure

Girl Scout cookies or raising money for school events. A fenced front yard isn't good enough; most people will open a gate and knock on the door.

On the other side of the fence, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends these common-sense practices to prevent an unwelcome encounter with a dog.

Don't:

- Approach an unfamiliar dog
- Run from a dog
- Panic or make loud noises
- Disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies
- Pet a dog without allowing it to see and sniff you first
- Encourage your dog to play aggressively
- Let small children play with an unsupervised dog

If you have questions about best practices, visit resources such as the CDC or the Humane Society of the United States websites. Also know that the experts at Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law are always here for you should you become a victim of a dog bite.

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when considering medical liability and the emotional distress surrounding what could potentially happen to the beloved family pet.

Dog-bite statutes vary from state to state. More than half the states make dog owners liable if their dogs cause injury,

your dog’s vaccinations are current, always keeping your dog on leash in public spaces, watch your dog around children, and post warning signs. You will also want to keep your pet out of strangers' paths – postal carriers, sales people and neighborhood children selling

Letter From Jan

The Jan Dils team is always concerned with your personal safety. Our newsletters frequently share information and tips that help prevent injury. Our first article is about dog bites. We hope you will find

it helpful on two sides – as an unsuspecting victim or a pet owner, because what we advocate for first and foremost is your family’s wellbeing. That means protecting yourself, your children and even your fur children.

We also delve into medical malpractice. The effects of malpractice, whether or not you are ever involved in a legal suit, can be substantial. Concerns regarding negligence can make patients nervous and impede a trustworthy and open interaction, the cornerstone of doctor-patient relationships. This article is intended to provide a basic knowledge of medical

malpractice and serve as a reminder to find the right physician and provider – credentialed professionals with whom you can comfortably discuss options, outcomes and expectations.

Whether medical, financial or legal, it’s important to have a trusted and open relationship with your advisors. Our firm has decades of experience putting our clients first. We adhere to the highest legal standard with the understanding that we earn the opportunity to represent you should you ever need us. Know that my teams are here to answer your questions and provide sound counsel in your legal matters.

Sincerely,
Jan Dils



Jan Dils brings her expertise to issues that affect you and millions of other Americans every day. While her knowledge spans the critical areas pertaining to Personal Injury, Veterans’ benefits, Social Security disability benefits and related appeals and claims, her practice remains focused on people, making sure you get the right answers and results.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT!

Jenny Fry

Jenny Fry is the staff accountant at Jan Dils. She has worked in our accounting office for more than six years. She began her love affair with math at a young age

and even “audited” college algebra classes with her aunt at age eight. She also did taxes with her grandpa which led her to pursue a career in accounting. Her education began with an associate’s degree in business administration. She

then went on to complete a bachelor’s degree with an option in Accounting at West Virginia University of Parkersburg. Jenny is an animal lover. When she’s not working, she’s hiking with her dog Bella, and spoiling her three cats. She rescued one of those cats from our parking lot! Jenny’s moto, “Don’t Shop! ADOPT.” She also enjoys going to concerts and collecting vinyl.



Community Corner



OPERATION TRANSPORTATION

Last year during Veterans Day, Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law helped launch a program for the Mid-Ohio Valley called Operation Transportation. With the help of several local businesses and our Mid-Ohio Valley Transit Authority, we were able to raise nearly \$3,000 to provide free bus rides for area Veterans. Due to the popularity of the program, we’ve made a few changes. The program is now a part of our Walk4Vets foundation. This will help us better allocate funds for the initiative. Since January 2016, 200 passes have been issued resulting in more than 5,100 uses. Our firm is sponsoring a community dinner on August 10th to raise more money for Veterans Day 2017.



What to Expect When You're Not Expecting an Unfavorable Medical Outcome.

Medical malpractice cases arise when a patient is harmed because a medical professional or facility fails to provide proper health care treatment. Rest easier knowing that on the whole, mistakes made by accredited doctors, nurses and hospitals are relatively low in numbers.

However, it is a reality we sometimes face and a reason medical malpractice insurance plays a factor in the rising cost of health care delivery. As a patient, it is critical to protect you and your loved ones from personal injury that can lead to loss of income and quality of life – physical and emotional.

When you choose an attorney, you want to know that your firm is in good standing as a member of the bar, has expertise in your type of legal matter and a proven track record. For a surgeon, physician or other medical provider, the equivalent resource is your state's medical licensing board as well as physician and personal referrals.

Do your homework. If there is a problem, know your rights.

Malpractice Claim Basics

If you are planning a procedure, the

last thing you need to worry about is a negative outcome. Put that out of your mind by having a basic understanding

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Radical Red Velvet Hot Chocolate

A frothy fall favorite from one of our favorite receptionists, Amy Stephens. Two sweet treats for our clients!



INGREDIENTS:

Marshmallow Whipped Cream:	Red Velvet Hot Chocolate:
1 cup heavy cream	2 cups whole, 2-percent or skim milk
3 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature	1 cup chopped best-quality semisweet chocolate
1/2 cup marshmallow cream	2 tablespoons best-quality Dutched cocoa powder, such as Valhrona
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract	1 teaspoon red food coloring
	1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS: For the whipped cream, first whip the cream and cream cheese until soft peaks form. Fold in the marshmallow cream and vanilla. In a separate pan, bring the milk to a simmer. Add the chocolate and cocoa powder and cook, stirring until smooth. Add the food coloring and vanilla and mix until combined. Whisk the mixture until very frothy. Pour into cups and top with large dollops of marshmallow whipped cream.



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of what will be considered should you ever need malpractice law.

- *The legal team will need to prove the physician-patient relationship. This means you hired the physician, it was not merely friendly advice.*
- *The doctor must be proven negligent. Just because you are unhappy with your treatment or results does not mean the doctor is liable for medical malpractice.*
- *The doctor's negligence must cause the injury. Because many malpractice cases involve patients that were already sick or injured, there is often a question of whether what the doctor did, negligent or not, actually caused the harm.*
- *The injury resulted in disability, disfigurement, amputation, paralysis,*

and/or death. In addition, the injury may have also led to other physical pain, mental anguish, and loss of income and/or earning capacity.

Peace of Mind

The Personal Injury attorneys and legal representatives at Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law have decades of expertise working with malpractice law. We are compassionate and experienced.

Your first consultation is always free. We hope you never need our services, but if you do, we are here to represent you.

As a patient, it is critical to protect you and your loved ones from personal injury that can lead to loss of income and quality of life - physical and emotional.

