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JCJJ— *a tradition of excellence and service*

Since she joined the firm in 2001, office manager **Lucrecia Flores** has worked to keep community service a priority at JCJJ. She coordinates support for several fund-raisers per year. This year, along with “adopting” a family for the holidays, JCJJ will provide support to battered women and their children through La Casa de las Madres.

In July 2006, the firm was recognized with a Gold Partner award by the San Francisco Food Bank’s “Food from the Bar” program. With the support of the partners and staff, funds were raised by in-house creative events such as raffles, jean passes, and bingo games. It all paid off with JCJJ’s fund-raising efforts surpassing those of many of the larger firms in the Bay Area. They truly believe you don’t have to be big to make big contributions, and it shows in all the work they do!

Examples of excellence in practice at JCJJ are common *Here are a few samples...*

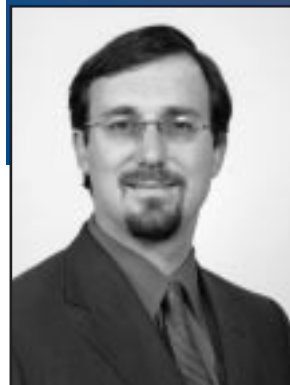


When a retired police officer’s workers’ compensation claim for benefits related to a heart attack was denied, **Frank Clifford** knew the case would be difficult, but that they could prevail—sure enough, it resolved in favor of the officer. Frank was elected this year as president of the Olympic Club, the oldest athletic club in America.

Known for his passionate advocacy, **Kevin Morrison** received public recognition along with a six-figure settlement in a challenging personal injury case referred to him from Lawyer Referral Service, a public service of the State Bar.



In addition to their practice, JCJJ lawyers and staff have been busy offering their time and professional expertise in venues around the Bay Area, including...



Christopher Dehner, former president of the California Applicants’ Attorneys Association—San Francisco Chapter, presented a workers’ compensation update to participants at the Center for Occupational & Environmental Health and Safety Summer Institute, at UC Berkeley.

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TRIAL LAWYERS

America's trial attorneys, who protect everyone's rights and champion their legitimate causes, pledge access to our civil justice system for working families who may lack the resources to take product grievances to court.

Lawyers promote the public good through their efforts to secure safer products, better workplaces, cleaner environments, and quality health care by protecting the rights of the injured and preserving the right to trial by jury.

Trial attorneys typically handle cases like these:

- A child paralyzed after being struck by a drunk driver.
- A young woman unable to have children because of a medical mistake.
- A person denied a promotion due to racial discrimination.
- An elderly person mistreated in a nursing home.
- A community whose water was made toxic by a local manufacturer.



I've never filed a lawsuit!

Question:

Although I was injured in a fall, I'm really reluctant to talk to an attorney about filing a lawsuit. Basically, I'm not really a litigious person. I've never filed a lawsuit, and I feel really uncomfortable about initiating one. Is that right?

Answer:

You're not alone. Even though the media make it look like people file lawsuits at the drop of a hat, the exact opposite is true. Lawsuit numbers are declining.

However, many people like you often feel somewhat uneasy about seeking recourse for harm, even when their injuries came through no fault of their own.

Being Good Samaritans like you, they think, "I should have noticed that slippery spot in the supermarket aisle where I fell."

However, most of our cultural, religious, and civil history shows that those who have been harmed have the right to seek fair recompense. It's important not to confuse justice with reprisal. Asking a place of business to pay for medical care for harm that its employees were responsible for is not revenge; it's expecting fair treatment, especially when a party responsible for harm refuses to acknowledge or accept responsibility.



Vehicle rollover accidents

Auto, truck, and sport-utility-vehicle rollover accidents unnecessarily kill 10,000 Americans annually. Another 24,000 suffer severe injuries.

Long-suppressed internal documents show that automakers knew as early as 1966 that car and truck roof designs were so weak that occupants could be crushed to death in rollover accidents. Ford could have fixed this deadly problem for \$43.13 per vehicle. Instead, manufacturers hid the information for years and continued selling dangerous vehicles.

In 2005, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration—despite specific direction from Congress to increase vehicle roof safety—established auto industry-sympathetic standards mandating only minimal improvements to existing standards. The regulations also prevent lawsuits against manufacturers who ignore their own internal safety researchers to bolster their bottom lines.



No \$43.13 safety improvement

Gary Skinner of Graysville, Alabama, was an avid fisherman with a love for music, says his wife Angela. But on July 28, 2005, Angela lost her 48-year-old husband in a rollover accident when his 1999 Ford Ranger blew a tire, causing Gary to lose control of the vehicle. As Gary's car rolled over, the roof caved in on him, causing a fatal head injury.

FOR YOUR SAFETY **Recalled product roundup**

Here are some recently recalled products you may have in your home or at work:

- ✓ **Arctic Cat, Inc.**, has recalled 41,000 Arctic Cat Snowmobiles with fuel tanks that can crack, leak, and burn riders.
- ✓ **Arctic Cat, Inc.**, has also called back 2,120 Arctic Cat Prowler XT Off-Highway Utility Vehicles. Rear brake calipers may leak brake fluid, reducing braking ability and potentially injuring riders.
- ✓ **Tyco Fire & Security** asks buyers to return 21,000 Fire Detection Systems. Sensors may have reduced sensitivity to smoke in conditions of high humidity and high temperature and delay smoke detection in a fire. Tyco Fire & Security also has requested that buyers return 128,000 smoke detectors that also may have reduced sensitivity to smoke.
- ✓ **BRK Brands, Inc.**, a subsidiary of First Alert, Inc., has recalled 145,890 First Alert® ONELINK™ Battery-Powered Smoke and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms. The alarms drain battery power rapidly and will chirp to alert consumers to replace the batteries. Failure to replace batteries before the battery power terminates may cause the alarm to fail to detect smoke and carbon monoxide in a fire.
- ✓ **PTI Sports, Inc.**, has asked buyers to return 14,000 Schwinn Deluxe Bicycle Child Carriers. Plastic guide tabs on the carrier seat rack can break and injure child riders.



Nursing homes... **...and accident prevention**

Families with elderly relatives who reside in nursing homes should be particularly vigilant about nursing home and rehabilitation center accident-prevention protocols.

Since many older people may have mobility or physical-dexterity problems, residences and facilities should get rid of accident hazards, such as low objects, floor obstructions, unstable chairs and beds, and unsafe restraint devices.

Dangerous restraints

A 77-year-old patient admitted to a nursing home was asphyxiated after she slid down in her wheelchair and became trapped in restraints. Her daughter sued, alleging care providers had used restraints without physician's orders or family consent. A jury awarded damages for the death and the daughter's loss of society with her mother.



CLIENT SERVICE

Our goal: Keep you informed

We will always strive to help our clients make truly informed decisions about their legal matters. In our counsel, we will constantly keep all clients "in the loop."

First, we will do our best to solicit client input and feelings about each case's background and developments. Clients always have insights and historic knowledge of issues that can help us fine-tune our approach. Listening to clients is very important to us.

Second, we will explain the tactics and strategies we plan to employ so clients understand why we may recommend a particular course of legal action and where we intend the strategy to lead us. We always appreciate client feedback.

Finally, our approach always includes giving each client the opportunity to ask questions—lots of them—which we will answer right away.



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Alexander Wong, who has helped edit the prestigious St. Clair text, *California Workers' Compensation Law and Practice*, has spoken several times on topics related to using the AMA Guidelines to audiences such as physicians participating in the AME recertification program and the Fremont Police Officers' Association.

Kenny Sheppard, who has a special interest in employment law, has given several lectures to Boalt Hall and Hastings Law School students on behalf of the Workers' Rights Clinic and Legal Aid Society—Employment Law Center.



Kathleen Mullen, MS, RN, who is in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. in nursing from UCSF, spoke in the NorthBay on "Cultural and Personal Aspects of Worker Injuries," and continues to lecture on workers' compensation issues to graduate students in occupational health nursing at UCSF. Her dissertation focuses on overcoming obstacles in returning to work after injury.



New talent at JCJJ

Earlier this year, attorney **Bryan Lamb** joined partners **Ken Johnson, Steger Johnson** and **Kevin Morrison** on the personal injury team at JCJJ. After graduating from McGeorge School of Law, Bryan developed an expertise in litigating complex personal injury cases, and is particularly skilled at using the latest technology in case presentations. Also joining JCJJ this year are two expert paralegals—**Sulema Martinez**, who works with the workers' compensation team, and **Richard Kornbluh**, who is on the personal injury team.

Referrals

We want you to think of us as your law firm.

If you have legal matters that need attention, please let us know. If we cannot handle the matter, we will refer you to a competent firm that can.

Please feel free to refer us to your family, friends, and neighbors for their legal needs. We welcome the opportunity to help.



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LOT BETTER ABOUT THINGS.