

Sherrod & Bernard GIVES BACK

- 2011 Sturgis Bike Rally
- Beulah Baptist Church Building Fund
- Beulah Bulldogs
- Children's Voice, CASA Inc., Douglasville
- Choirs for Cancer/Tanner Medical Foundation
www.choirsforcancer.org
- Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County
www.artsdouglas.org
- Ephesus Baptist Church Student Ministry Mission Trip
- Integris Foundations/Nazih Zuhdi Transplant Institute
www.integrisfoundations.org
- Knights of Columbus
- Pregnancy Resource Center of Douglas County, Inc.
- Winship Cancer Institute @ Emory University Hospital
www.winshipcancer.emory.edu/

Referrals

We want you to think of us as your law firm. If you have a legal matter that needs attention, let us know. If we can't handle the matter, we will refer you to a firm that can.



Sherrod+Bernard
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 1154 | 8470 Price Avenue
Douglasville, GA 30133

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SB @ ISSUE

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Hit and Run Cases and Legal Issues For The Victim

By Ken Bernard

Hit and run cases usually involve at least three different issues: 1) A possible criminal prosecution for violating the law and leaving the scene of an accident; 2) A possible claim/lawsuit for property damage, if any; and 3) A possible claim/lawsuit for personal injuries (including medical bills, future medical bills, lost wages, pain and suffering, and, if married, loss of consortium, if any). The first issue involves coordination with the local prosecutor (DA/Solicitor) usually through a victim witness coordinator in the local prosecutor's office. The prosecutor's office will need to know, among other things, what the impact of the crime has had on the victim. This information may be used to assess whether restitution is a possible punishment option in the criminal prosecution.

Personal injury and property damage claims usually are separate claims, but both may require an attorney. For injury claims, a personal injury lawyer will provide representation and guidance on dealing with insurance adjusters and potential suit. The lawyer will coordinate a claim for injuries, deal with nuances in local laws, coordinate a review of medical bills and records associated with the accident, prepare a demand package, negotiate with the insurance company, if any, and file suit where warranted. At each stage, the client should always be informed and make informed decisions.

Because most personal injury lawyers work on a contingency fee basis, no fee unless recovery (usually a percentage of the gross amount collected, plus actual

costs incurred), it is not uncommon for a lawyer to assess the issues of liability (fault) and damages (which are the direct and proximate cause of the accident), insurance coverage and collectability before taking a case on a contingency. Under some circumstances and depending upon the jurisdictional limits, many states have small claim courts for smaller cases, where parties may or may not be represented and forms may be provided to assist the claimant in asserting a claim. One should never assume the case is small, as many injuries have consequences not readily known at the time of the accident.

In every accident case, the victim should always consult with a qualified personal injury lawyer, who is dedicated to caring about the client and providing a legal team focused on providing the right advice to minimize the ordeal for the victim and their family, insure medical care is available for the client, reviewing all sources of potential insurance coverage, reducing bill collector's harassment of the injured party, and maximizing recovery for medical bills, future medical bills, lost wages, pain and suffering, and other losses associated with the wreck's impact on the victim.

Laws differ depending upon the jurisdiction and venue involved. Consult with a qualified and licensed attorney in your state for advice and counsel. The author is licensed in the state of Georgia and has not assessed the merits of any potential claim, or the likelihood of a specific result.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL GAME SCHEDULE

<p>Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011</p> <p>NEW MEXICO BOWL 2:00 ET, ESPN Temple Owls (8-4) Wyoming Cowboys (8-4)</p> <p>IDAHO POTATO BOWL 5:30 ET, ESPN Ohio Bobcats (9-4) Utah State Aggies (7-5)</p> <p>NEW ORLEANS BOWL 9:00 ET, ESPN San Diego State Aztecs (8-4) Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns (8-4)</p> <p>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011</p> <p>BEEF 'O' BRADY'S BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN FIU Golden Panthers (8-4) Marshall Thundering Herd (6-6)</p> <p>Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2011</p> <p>POINSETTIA BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN 16 TCU Horned Frogs (10-2) Louisiana Tech Bulldogs (8-4)</p> <p>Thurs., Dec. 22, 2011</p> <p>MAACO BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN Arizona State Sun Devils (6-6) 8 Boise State Broncos (11-1)</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 24, 2011</p> <p>HAWAII BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN Nevada Wolf Pack (7-5) 22 Southern Miss Golden Eagles (11-2)</p>	<p>Monday, Dec. 26, 2011</p> <p>INDEPENDENCE BOWL 12:00 ET, ESPN2 North Carolina Tar Heels (7-5) Missouri Tigers (7-5)</p> <p>Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2011</p> <p>LITTLE CAESARS BOWL 4:30 ET, ESPN Western Michigan Broncos (7-5) Purdue Boilermakers (6-6)</p> <p>BELK BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN Louisville Cardinals (7-5) North Carolina State Wolfpack (7-5)</p> <p>Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011</p> <p>MILITARY BOWL 4:30 ET, ESPN Toledo Rockets (8-4) Air Force Falcons (7-5)</p> <p>HOLIDAY BOWL 8:00 ET, ESPN California Golden Bears (7-5) Texas Longhorns (7-5)</p> <p>Thurs., Dec. 29, 2011</p> <p>CHAMPS SPORTS BOWL 5:30 ET, ESPN 25 Florida State Seminoles (8-4) Notre Dame Fighting Irish (8-4)</p> <p>ALAMO BOWL 9:00 ET, ESPN Washington Huskies (7-5) 15 Baylor Bears (9-3)</p>	<p>Friday, Dec. 30, 2011</p> <p>ARMED FORCES BOWL 12:00 ET, ESPN Brigham Young Cougars (9-3) Tulsa Golden Hurricane (8-4)</p> <p>PINSTRIPED BOWL 3:20 ET, ESPN Iowa State Cyclones (6-6) Rutgers Scarlet Knights (8-4)</p> <p>MUSIC CITY BOWL 6:40 ET, ESPN Mississippi State Bulldogs (6-6) Wake Forest Demon Deacons (6-6)</p> <p>INSIGHT BOWL 10:00 ET, ESPN Iowa Hawkeyes (7-5) 19 Oklahoma Sooners (9-3)</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011</p> <p>TEXAS BOWL 12:00 ET, ESPN Texas A&M Aggies (6-6) Northwestern Wildcats (6-6)</p> <p>SUN BOWL 2:00 ET, CBS Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets (8-4) Utah Utes (7-5)</p> <p>FIGHT HUNGER BOWL 3:30 ET, ESPN Illinois Fighting Illini (6-6) UCLA Bruins (6-7)</p> <p>LIBERTY BOWL 3:30 ET, ABC Cincinnati Bearcats (9-3) Vanderbilt Commodores (6-6)</p>	<p>Monday, Jan. 2, 2012</p> <p>TICKETCITY BOWL 12:00 ET, ESPN 20 Houston Cougars (12-1) 24 Penn State Nittany Lions (9-3)</p> <p>GATOR BOWL 1:00 ET, ESPN2 Ohio State Buckeyes (6-6) Florida Gators (6-6)</p> <p>OUTBACK BOWL 1:00 ET, ABC 12 Michigan State Spartans (10-3) 18 Georgia Bulldogs (10-3)</p> <p>CAPITAL ONE BOWL 1:00 ET, ESPN 21 Nebraska Cornhuskers (9-3) 10 South Carolina Gamecocks (10-2)</p> <p>ROSE BOWL 5:00 ET, ESPN 9 Wisconsin Badgers (11-2) 6 Oregon Ducks (11-2)</p> <p>FIESTA BOWL 8:30 ET, ESPN 4 Stanford Cardinal (11-1) 3 Oklahoma State Cowboys (11-1)</p> <p>Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012</p> <p>SUGAR BOWL 8:30 ET, ESPN 13 Michigan Wolverines (10-2) 17 Virginia Tech Hokies (11-2)</p>	<p>Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012</p> <p>DISCOVER ORANGE BOWL 8:30 ET, ESPN 23 West Virginia Mountaineers (9-3) 14 Clemson Tigers (10-3)</p> <p>Friday, Jan. 6, 2012</p> <p>COTTON BOWL 8:00 ET, FOX 11 Kansas State Wildcats (10-2) 7 Arkansas Razorbacks (10-2)</p> <p>Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012</p> <p>BBVA COMPASS BOWL 1:00 ET, ESPN Southern Methodist Mustangs (7-5) Pittsburgh Panthers (6-6)</p> <p>Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012</p> <p>GODADDY.COM BOWL 9:00 ET, ESPN Arkansas State Red Wolves (10-2) Northern Illinois Huskies (10-3)</p> <p>Monday, Jan. 9, 2012</p> <p>BCS CHAMPIONSHIP 8:30 ET, ESPN 2 Alabama Crimson Tide (11-1) 1 LSU Tigers (13-0)</p>
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Susan Joyce, Editor
P.O. Box 1154
8470 Price Avenue
Douglasville, GA 30133

FREE CONSULTATION
TOLL FREE: 877-798-8979
LOCAL: 770-920-8350

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with no obligation.

Thank you for the referrals...

A referral from a former client or friend is the greatest compliment our firm can receive. We are grateful for every referral – below is a list of the people who recently referred a friend or family member to our firm. We would like to publicly thank each and every one of them by listing them in our newsletter. And again, we say, "Thank You!" We at Sherrod & Bernard appreciate all our referring friends, even those inadvertently omitted. This list was generated solely from clients reporting how they found SB. Thank you for your confidence in our legal team.

Tonya Babb	David Coleman	Juanita Jones	Lance Noles	Jason Teater
Bill Bailey	Stan Copeland	Jesse Kapes	Gerald Pilgrim	Janice Thompson
Becky Baker	Angel Cordle	Sherri Kelley	Leanne Roberts	Michael Thurmond
Jimmy Bartlett	Earl Cosgrove	Beth Mabry	Russ Roper	Chad White
Lucy Beck	Jay Davis	Jason Mabry	Brenda Rowland	Ron Wilson
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Tommy Black	Kristy Haffner	Gary Miller	Becky Taylor	Joel Wooten
Mark Brooks	Kevin Head	Bonnie Miller	Stacy Taylor	Eric Ziegler
Scott Camp	Susan Heaton Fluhg	Crystal Mills	William Taylor	

Sources For Information On Recalls And Consumer Warnings

The U.S. Government's online database at www.recalls.gov is available for a general search of recall announcements. Other sources:

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issues recalls on food, drugs, medical devices and cosmetics.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issues recalls on vehicles, tires and child-safety seats.
- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issues recalls on everyday products from clothes to coffeemakers.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture issues recalls on meat, poultry and egg products.
- The U.S. Coast Guard issues recalls on boats and boating equipment.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issues recalls on pesticides and auto emission systems.

Information provided by the Georgia Department of Consumer Affairs <http://consumer.georgia.gov/consumer-services/product-safety-recalls>

A Great Result for a Great Client

By Stephanie Regas

On September 23, 2011, a Fulton County jury awarded Sherrod & Bernard client Brad Hall \$2 million dollars for injuries he sustained from a fall while installing security system wiring at the Atlantic Station IKEA. Brad had been using a scissor-lift to run wires through the store's ceiling grid. However, about a month before his fall, the general contractor instructed Brad to use to a less safe ladder.



Sherrod & Bernard's, Susan Joyce pictured with Brad Hall and his Mother, Carolyn Hall

While atop the ladder, Brad lost his balance and fell ten feet to a cement floor. Brad was taken by ambulance to Piedmont Hospital where he underwent emergency surgery for a fractured and dislocated knee. Several additional surgeries were needed, which culminated in a total knee replacement and surgery to replace damaged ligaments. To make matters worse, Brad later acquired a severe staph infection that required a skin graft, complicating his recovery process.

In 2007, our firm filed a negligence case against Vratsinas, the general contractor for IKEA. At trial, we contended that the general contractor had a duty to maintain a safe work environment and Vratsinas' instruction to use a ladder instead of a scissor-lift was careless. The jury agreed. After presenting evidence and testimony over a four-day period, the jury awarded Brad \$2 million dollars for permanent injuries, lost wages, and enormous medical bills. This was a great result for a truly deserving client of our firm. (John Sherrod handled this case and Brad's workers' compensation case arising from the same injury.)



Proud Dad, John Sherrod, recently escorted daughter, Lindsey, on the The Heritage School homecoming court

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays

from Sherrod & Bernard



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

SQUASH CASSEROLE

Shared by Elyse Vaughn



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 6 medium yellow summer squash, thinly sliced
- 1 large Vidalia onion, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan
- 1 cup shredded sharp Cheddar
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 sleeve crackers, crushed medium to fine (recommended: Ritz)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 2-quart casserole dish.

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Sauté the squash, onion, and butter until soft. Transfer to a bowl and stir in the Parmesan, Cheddar, and sour cream. Add salt and pepper, to taste.

Place in the prepared casserole dish and sprinkle the cracker crumbs evenly over the top. Bake for 20 minutes or until the top is golden and bubbly.



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