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SPANGENBERG LAW FIRM

POINTS OF INTEREST

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE SPANGENBERG LAW FIRM.

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IVC FILTER COMPLICATIONS

Retrievable filters designed to stop blood clots to the lungs may in fact cause serious side effects.



PRESIDENT'S DAY 2016

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UPDATE: BLUE BUFFALO CLASS SETTLEMENT REACHED

We are pleased to announce that a settlement has been reached.

LEGISLATIVE ALERT: THE "CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS" BILL

CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS

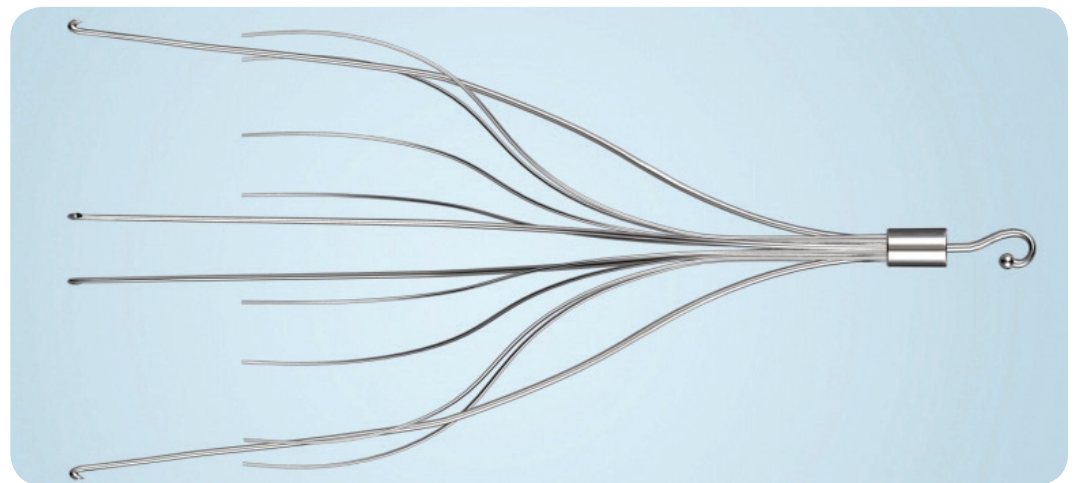
Entries are now being accepted for the Spangenberg Law Firm's Video PSA Scholarship Contest.

This newsletter is intended to provide information regarding this law firm, legal issues, and public events. It is not legal advice. Every case is unique. Do not rely on information in this newsletter to make decisions without consulting with an attorney. You may copy and distribute this newsletter only in its entirety.

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RETRIEVABLE IVC FILTER COMPLICATIONS

BY: STUART E. SCOTT, ESQ.



Retrievable inferior vena cava filters (IVC filters) are small metal devices designed to stop a blood clot from traveling to the lungs. The device resembles a metal cage and is surgically inserted into a patient's vein. The wires are designed to trap blood clots before those clots can reach the lungs. The IVC filter is placed in the largest vein in the lower abdomen. This vein returns blood to the heart from the extremities.

While the filter's design was meant to stop a pulmonary embolism - a blood clot to the lungs - these IVC filters may in fact bring their own serious, even deadly, side effects. One problem, according to the FDA, is that only about a third of the retrievable IVC filters are actually ever removed. In the twelve years that the IVC retrievable filters have been on the market, the FDA has received more

than 1,000 adverse event reports, including:

- Device migration
- Blood vessel perforation
- Filter fracture
- Detached device components (called device embolization)

Concerns are being raised about IVC filters manufactured and marketed by C.R. Bard and Cook. If these companies were aware of the safety risks associated with the filters - yet failed to disclose those risks to the FDA - the company may be liable for failure to warn. If you or a loved one suffered injuries after having an IVC retrievable filter implanted and you would like to speak with one of our attorneys about your rights and legal options, contact us at (877)-696-3303 or visit our IVC webpage at www.spanglaw.com/blogs/tags/IVC.

PRESIDENT'S DAY FUN FACTS

- The federal holiday established to honor President George Washington dates back to 1879. It was celebrated on Washington's actual birthday - February 22 - until 1971, when it was shifted to the third Monday in February.
- Although President Barack Obama is our 44th President, there have actually been only 43 individual Presidents. Grover Cleveland was elected for two nonconsecutive terms and is counted twice, as both our 22nd and 24th Presidents.
- The tallest President was Abraham Lincoln at 6 feet, 4 inches tall. James Madison was our shortest President at 5 feet 4 inches.
- Contrary to popular belief, George Washington's teeth were not made from wood. His dentures were made of gold, ivory, lead, and animal teeth.
- President Ulysses S. Grant was given a \$20 speeding ticket for riding his horse too fast.
- The only President to be elected unanimously was George Washington. He refused to accept his Presidential salary, which was \$25,000 a year.
- President Woodrow Wilson would paint his golf balls black during the winter so he could continue playing in the snow.
- Presidents William McKinley, Grover Cleveland, and James Madison are on the \$500, \$1,000, and \$5,000 bills, respectively. While these bills are still used as legal tender, they are no longer being printed.



3

TIPS FOR ACHIEVING YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

2016, here we come!

Here are three tips to help you keep your New Year's resolutions and increase your chances of reaching your goals.

#1

Prioritize Three Goals- Stop, Start, Continue

"When we set too many goals for ourselves, we lose track over time of what is most important and often fail to accomplish much of anything."



STOP

We all have habits that are holding us back from being the best version of ourselves. So call yourself out on one habit that you are going to stop in 2016.



START

It is likely that we also have something that we have talked a lot about doing but never transitioned to action. 2016 is the year to start something we have always wanted to do but never quite made it past the starting line.



CONTINUE

We have all likely been doing something that has been contributing to our success. So keep it up and continue to reap the rewards.

#2

Engage With Others



Engage with your circle of friends

I believe that every individual should also establish their own group of advisors, influencers that positively and proactively challenge us and energize us to reach our peak performance.

We should communicate with them our three prioritised goals and enlist their support in holding us accountable throughout the year.

By sharing our goals with others, we breathe life into them and invite those that we trust to be our biggest supporters.

#3

Track and Celebrate Your Milestone

Completed Level 1 of Japanese language June 2016

Had a conversation in Japanese May 2016

Sign up for Japanese language class March 2016

We must move forward one step at a time which is why it is important to both track and celebrate our milestones along the path to our goals.

These shorter term accomplishments keep us motivated and on track to achieving our longer term plans.

UPDATE: BLUE BUFFALO CLASS SETTLEMENT REACHED

This past December, Spangenberg Law Firm attorneys Stuart Scott and Dan Frech were part of a team of lawyers who reached a settlement in a Class Action lawsuit against Blue Buffalo pet food for false and misleading claims regarding the nutritional value and content of its pet food products. Blue Buffalo touted its product as a premium brand of pet food that contained no poultry byproduct meals; no corn, wheat or soy; and no artificial flavors, colors or preservatives. The plaintiffs' case alleged that Blue Buffalo's products actually did contain these ingredients and that consumers were being ripped off by paying a premium price for falsely-marketed premium pet food.

The settlement would create a \$32 million fund to compensate consumers nationwide who purchased the falsely-labeled pet food.

Attorneys Scott and Frech filed the initial case in Ohio, which was later consolidated into multi-district litigation before a federal court in St. Louis. For more information or to make a claim, go to www.PetFoodSettlement.com.



IT'S CALLED THE 'CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS' BILL- BUT IS IT REALLY?

BY: WILLIAM HAWAL, ESQ.

On January 8th, The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that if enacted would protect corporate wrongdoers while creating barriers to those seeking justice through class action lawsuits and in addition, would expose asbestos victims' information.

A class action lawsuit enables those who have been harmed and who do not individually have the financial resources to mount a lawsuit against a corporate giant to join together to seek justice.

H.R. 1927 – ironically named the “Fairness in Class Action Litigation and Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency Act” – would require that class action plaintiffs show that all potential class members suffered the same type and scope of injury.



This change would significantly limit the ability of

injured individuals to sue while protecting corporate wrongdoers. If enacted, this bill would have potentially limited the ability of the plaintiffs in the Blue Buffalo class action case (see article above) to hold the company accountable for its false marketing.

H.R. 1927 would also require trusts that manage the claims of those who have suffered injuries from exposure to asbestos to disclose the injured parties' information and make it public, including their name, personal asbestos exposure history, and the amount of compensation for their injuries.

This public disclosure would impinge on asbestos victims' privacy rights and would cause an unnecessary risk of identity theft as well as the potential to harm their efforts to obtain employment, credit and insurance.

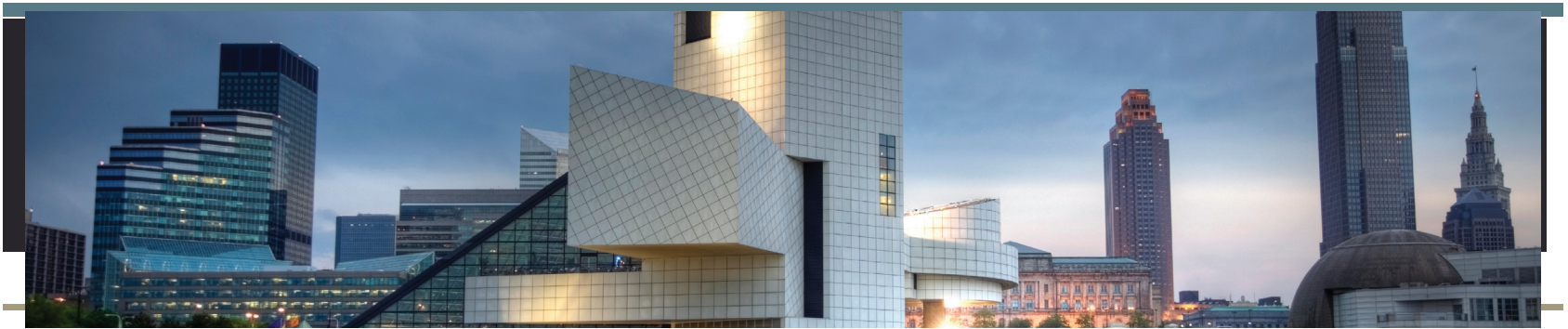
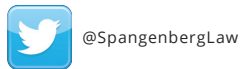
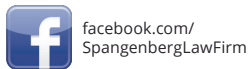
At this time the White House has threatened to veto the bill, stating that the courts already have authority to screen out frivolous class action lawsuits and that the asbestos claim-related sections of the bill are based on a false assertion that there is rampant fraud in the asbestos trust system.

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A referral from a client or friend is the greatest compliment our firm can receive. We are grateful for every one of these gestures and for the confidence you place in us by doing so. From all of us at Spangenberg Shibley & Liber, we express our sincere appreciation. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENT: COLLEGE STUDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

The Spangenberg Law Firm's Video PSA Scholarship Contest has now launched!

We invite students who will be enrolled in college next year to participate in our 2016 Spangenberg Law Firm Scholarship Contest, which challenges entrants to create an original, compelling, and impactful video public service announcement that addresses one of these topics:

- What can students do to help prevent bullying?
- Elections: Why is voting important?
- How can we help young people make healthier food choices at home and in school?
- Distracted driving: What can young people do to help end this epidemic?

Entries will be evaluated on originality, creativity, strength of message, and ability to inspire viewers. The \$2,000 scholarship first prize will be chosen by a Selection Committee. The \$1,000 scholarship second prize will be selected by popular vote.

You can find all of the contest details at www.Spanglaw.com/Scholarship.

Please help us spread the word about this college scholarship opportunity. The submission deadline is Friday, April 15, 2016.

Spangenberg Shibley & Liber



Video PSA Scholarship Contest