

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

After Episodes Of Burns From Gel Fuels, Some Are Calling For Their Ban

By **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on August 18, 2011

This year alone, more than 50 reports of injuries and 2 fatalities have been reported to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission related to household use of a popular gel fuels. The gel fuel products have experienced a new wave of popularity over the summer months as consumers use the gels to provide ambiance and outdoor light to their summertime fun.

A recent [article](#) in The Chicago Tribune discussed the dangerous aspects of these gels by documenting several situations where people were severely burned by splattering gel fuel. In one situation, a man was sent to the hospital with [second and third degree burns](#) after another party-goer attempted to re-fill a torch with more fuel.

Such burn incidents are not isolated. In another incident, a child was severely burned when the gel spilled on to her skin when she mistakenly bumped a table. The nature of the gel exacerbated the burns because the nature of the fuel makes it virtually impossible to extinguish as the fuel will continue to burn until the fire is extinguished.

While the fuels do carry consumer warnings about the risk of explosion and burns, the warnings seem to be insufficient due to the incredibly volatile nature of the product. From a legal perspective, I find the warnings to be grossly insufficient.

Jonathan Rosenfeld offers legal services relating to: birth injuries, medical malpractice, day care abuse, foster care abuse, swimming pool injuries, automobile accidents, school bus accidents, dog bites, food poisoning, product liability, amusement park accidents and clergy abuse. For more information please visit Child Injury Laws Blog (<http://www.childinjurylaws.com/>) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757. (www.rosenfeldinjurylawyers.com.)

Given both the inherently dangerous nature of these products and their intended household use, I believe these fuel gel manufactures have opened the doors to a series of **product liability lawsuits** against them filed on behalf of injured consumers.

Similar gel fuels are sold under the names: BirdBrain, FireLites, Real Flame, Napa Fire, Wind Flame, Patio Gel, Tera and Sun Jel. If you have sustained a burn or other serious injury related to these devices, we want to talk with you, as we are currently evaluating several legal theories for claims against these manufacturers.

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