



May 2014

YOU SHOULD KNOW

IN THIS ISSUE

- /
- [Parents Ask Why? >](#)
- [Courtroom Power >](#)
- [Snapshot Survey >](#)



Patrick Malone & Associates

888-625-6635

Dear Jessica,

Revelations that GM chose profit over safety highlight once again why it is so important to stand up for every American's constitutional right to pursue justice in a court of law. It is the great equalizer between the individual and the powerful.



Civil Justice System Compels Safety Innovations

Family's Search for Answers Uncovers Fatal Flaw in GM Cars

On March 10, 2010, Brooke Melton experienced the worst kind of déjà vu. Four days earlier, she had wrestled her 2005 GM Cobalt to the side of the road after the engine suddenly shut off. The car was serviced and supposedly fixed, but it happened again, cutting off power to her steering and brakes. This time the pediatric nurse, described by those who knew her as "sweet and caring," lost control and swerved into another car. She died in the collision. Brooke was on her way to celebrate her 29th birthday with her boyfriend.



GM executives chose not to fix a defective ignition because it would cost \$1 per car.

At the hospital, Brooke's father bent over and whispered in his daughter's ear that he would find out what happened that terrible night. The Meltons would exercise their right to seek justice and, like many brave Americans before them, ultimately make this a safer world for us all. ***GM knew ignition problem existed.*** >>>

BY THE NUMBERS /

THE DOCKET /

> CHECK OUT OUR BETTER HEALTH CARE NEWSLETTER.

13

Deaths

GM's failure to fix a known defect with an ignition switch, which affected several [Chevrolet models](#) made between 2003 and 2007, is blamed for at least 32 crashes and 13 deaths.

> LATEST NEWS FROM OUR PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

> CHILD SAFETY TIPS AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION FROM OUR CHILD PROTECTION BLOG

> MALPRACTICE A-Z: ANSWERS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS

Source: [SEC Opens Probe Over GM Ignition Switch Recall](#), USA Today

11 Safety Fixes

Major auto safety innovations prompted by litigation include gas tanks, side-impact protection, seat belts, roof design, tires, electronic stability, door latches, parking gear, air bags, power windows and seats.

Source: [Driven to Safety](#), American Association for Justice

6,000 Lives Saved

Approximately 6,000 deaths and millions of injuries are prevented each year because companies have improved the safety of their products and services in response to product liability laws.

Source: [Congressional Testimony](#), Consumer Federation of America

BOOKMARK FAVORITES /

Group Urges GM to Create Compensation Fund

The [Center for Justice & Democracy](#) is a national consumer organization fighting for civil justice and raising awareness to protect Americans. Its members are urging GM to create a [compensation fund](#) for those injured in crashes related to the defective ignition switch.

Follow the Latest on Auto Safety, Consumer Rights

The Consumers Union and Ralph Nader founded the Center for Auto Safety in 1970 to provide consumers a voice for auto safety and quality in Washington, D.C. Visit the [Center's website](#) to track recalls, file or read complaints and read about the latest developments in auto safety.

Federation Advancing Consumer Rights Since 1968

The [Consumer Federation of America](#) is an association of nonprofit consumer organizations established to advance consumer interests through research, advocacy and education. Today nearly 300 groups belong to the Federation. Find those located in your state [here](#).



How Safe Is Your Car?

Tell us what you think about GM, safety defects and your car. You could win an iPod shuffle just for participating!

[Survey here](#)



Talking the Issues

Check out podcasts featuring topics from past issues of *You Should Know*, and subscribe to future shows via iTunes or RSS feed.

[Listen now](#)

newsletter is intended for the interest of past and present clients and other friends of this lawyer. It is not intended as a substitute for specific legal advice. You received this newsletter at <jessica%40jdsupra.com> because you indicated to the above attorney your interest in receiving information via email. If you no longer wish to receive these emails, [click here to unsubscribe from this newsletter](#), and your request will be honored immediately. You may also submit your request in writing to: Steven L. Miller, Editor, 4907 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312. Be sure to include your email address.