



August 2015

YOU SHOULD KNOW

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Dear Jessica,

One of the most rewarding aspects of our job is to help courageous people stand up for their rights and recover from what are often terrible circumstances. Here are the stories of several remarkable people who have turned tragedy into action.



THE DOCKET /

> CHECK OUT OUR BETTER HEALTH CARE NEWSLETTER.

2015 Justice Served Awards: Reader Survey

Heroes Step Up to Protect the Health, Safety of All Americans



Inspirational Olympic gold medalist Amy Van Dyken-Rouen after spinal cord injury.

Motivated by tragic circumstances in their own lives and a passion to help others, our nominees for the 2015 Justice Served Awards have stepped up to make our nation a safer place for all Americans:

- Dr. Stephen Loyd, a prominent physician calling for mandatory drug testing of all doctors after revealing that he himself was battling drug problems.
- Amy Van Dyken-Rouen, a former Olympic swimmer raising awareness of spinal cord injuries after she was paralyzed from the waist down following an ATV accident.
- Dr. John T. James, a toxicologist whose research upended the medical profession with stunning estimates of annual deaths caused by medical errors.
- Reggie McKinnon, a father speaking out about children dying from heat stroke after he mistakenly left his 17-month-old daughter in his car on a hot day.

[Read their stories and take our reader survey. >>>](#)

BY THE NUMBERS /

100,000

More than 100,000 doctors and other health care workers throughout the nation are **abusing or dependent** on prescription drugs.

> LATEST NEWS FROM OUR PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

> HEALTH CARE ADVOCATES' POWER KIT

> MALPRACTICE A-Z: ANSWERS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS

> THE LAWSUIT PROCESS STEP BY STEP

On Drugs

Top 3 Killer

A [recent study](#) estimates that between 210,000 and 440,000 people die each year from preventable medical errors, making it the third leading cause of death in the U.S. after heart disease and cancer.

637 Kids

Heatstroke suffered in a hot car killed 637 kids from 1998 through 2014, according to [this study](#); 11 more have already died this year. Yearly average: 37.

BOOKMARK FAVORITES /



Is Your Doctor Stoned? TODAY Investigation

Dr. Stephen Loyd tells his story of taking nearly 100 painkillers a day while seeing patients. [View video.](#)



Olympic Champ Breaks All the Rules in Comeback

An ATV accident paralyzed six-time Olympic gold medalist Amy Van Dyken-Rouen. Now she inspires others with spinal cord injuries. [View video.](#)



Father Tells Agonizing Story to Help Others

The father of a 17-month-old who died of heatstroke after she was left in a hot car promises to honor her memory by educating others. [View video.](#)



Which Justice Served Story Touches You Most?

Share your thoughts about our 2015 nominees and win a chance to score a free, one-year subscription to Consumer Reports.

[Take the survey](#)



We Should Be Drug Tested, Says Doctor

"I worked impaired every day," said Dr. Stephen Loyd. "Looking back, it scares me to death."

[Listen now](#)

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