Reno Air Races Ticket Disclaimers Won't Halt Civil Lawsuits

If you have attended any type of sporting event or concert, you have received a ticket which has some "fine print" written on it. If you've ever taken the time to read this "fine print," you know that it usually discusses refund policies, spectator conduct, and rules for the use of videotaping and photography.

But this part of the ticket also lays out a so-called waiver of responsibility by the venue. This disclaimer states that any injuries received while attending this event is not the fault of the venue or its employees. Some people may think that this disclaimer shields these venues from personal injury lawsuits.

They're wrong. Venues can be held accountable for injuries to their fans - including those who were hurt or killed at last week's Reno Air Races.

An <u>article in the Reno-Gazette Journal</u> details why this is the case. Basically, it's because the risks of certain injuries at sporting events are different. And while a baseball park might not be held liable for the injuries sustained by a fan who was hit by a foul ball, the harm caused by a modified aircraft crashing into spectator seating falls into a different category.

For one thing, there is evidence that the aircraft was not adequately tested before it began racing in Reno. But most importantly, the venue and/or race organizers will probably not be able to argue that spectators knew that they were accepting that level of catastrophic risk brought about by planes falling out of the sky.

So if you feel dissuaded from filing a lawsuit due to the disclaimer on the ticket, don't let that affect your decision. Because you or a loved one were hurt or killed at the Reno Air Races, you are entitled to compensation. Contact a qualified personal injury lawyer to find out more.