



WATSON, JIMMERSON, MARTIN, McKINNEY, GRAFFEO & HELMS, P.C.

A t t o r n e y s A t L a w



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Personal Injury/Wrongful Death

- Motor vehicle accidents
- Products liability
- Construction accidents
- Premises liability
- Medical malpractice
- Nursing home negligence & neglect

Complex Litigation & Class Action

- Civil rights/discrimination
- Consumer protection
- Mass torts

Corporate, Business, & Commercial Law

- Business & commercial law
- Business organizations
- Contracts

A message to our clients

The purpose of our firm's newsletter is to share information with our most important resource: our current and past clients. We want to share information with you that makes your working and personal life safer, healthier, and more secure. We hope you will find this information useful and will pass it on to your friends and family.

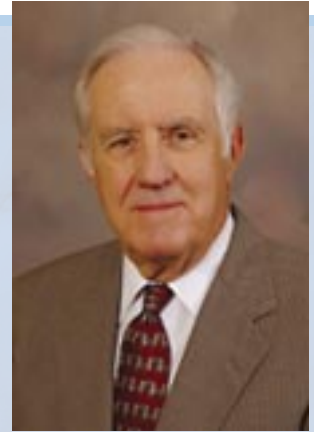
Think of us as your law firm. If you have problems that need attention, let us know. We will follow up with you and discuss your needs promptly.

Our firm has always enjoyed many positive relationships with clients, and we rely upon our clients to help us and to allow us to help them. We hope your experience with our firm was and continues to be a positive one, and that you will share your opinion of our firm with your friends and family.

Our objective is to combine our experience, knowledge, and professionalism to protect our clients' rights and interests without compromise. We will listen to the concerns and cares of anyone who does us the honor and pleasure of asking us to help them. The highest compliment that can be paid to us is when a person brings us the problems that are bearing upon his or her life and allows us to provide whatever guidance is available.

We owe our present status to the people who have brought us their problems.

Sincerely,
Herman "Buck" Watson, Jr.



ABOUT OUR FIRM

Watson, Jimmerson, Martin, McKinney, Graffeo & Helms, P.C., is a general practice law firm located in the beautiful Twickenham Historic District of Huntsville, Alabama. Our founding partner, Herman "Buck" Watson, Jr., has practiced law in the Tennessee Valley Region for over 45 years. We have a distinguished history of effectively handling a broad range of civil and criminal matters across Alabama and the nation. In addition to our successful personal injury and wrongful death practice, we have participated as counsel in at least 30 high-profile class-action lawsuits of national scope, where settlements have been in the multimillions of dollars.

Our Martindale-Hubbell rating

Our firm has earned the highest rating available (AV) in the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory* for our legal capabilities and devotion to professional ethics. Since *Martindale-Hubbell* bases assessments on surveys of members of the bar and judges, we take pride in our colleagues' recognizing and respecting the quality of our legal work. We invite you to view our Web site at www.WatsonJimmerson.com, where you can find a wealth of information about our firm and our practice areas.

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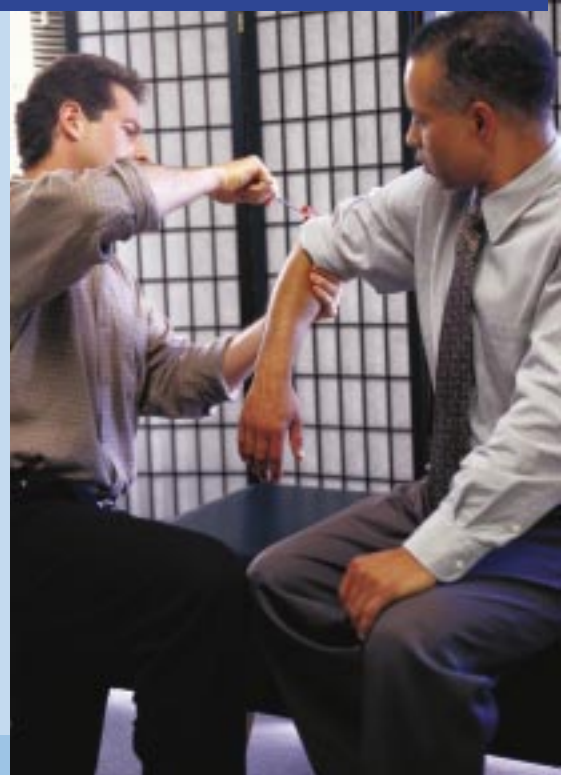
Representing the injured since 1961.



Retail customer safety

Retail businesses are responsible for maintaining safe surroundings for customers who enter and shop on their premises.

If a business is forgetful or negligent about its safety obligation, causing a customer to suffer an injury, the owner may be held liable for the harmed individual's medical expenses, pain and suffering, and lost wages.



Our firm has represented many clients who were injured by dangerous conditions in restaurants, grocery stores, hospitals, fitness centers, apartment complexes, and other areas. If you or a loved one has been injured in a similar situation, please consider contacting us soon to set up a free consultation with one of our personal injury lawyers.

Nursing homes... ...and accident prevention

Families with elderly relatives who reside in nursing homes should be particularly vigilant about nursing home and rehabilitation center accident-prevention protocols.

Since many older people may have mobility or physical-dexterity problems, residences and facilities should get rid of accident hazards, such as low objects, floor obstructions, unstable chairs and beds, and unsafe restraint devices.

Our firm's experience

The medical malpractice lawyers at our firm have successfully resolved numerous nursing-home cases in which poor care or neglect caused bedsores, broken bones, burns, malnutrition, infections, and amputations. If a family member or friend has suffered from nursing-home neglect or abuse, please consider contacting one of our lawyers today.

Vehicle rollover accidents



Auto, truck, and sport-utility-vehicle rollover accidents unnecessarily kill 10,000 Americans annually. Another 24,000 suffer severe injuries.

Long-suppressed internal documents show that automakers knew as early as 1966 that car and truck roof designs were so weak that occupants could be crushed to death in rollover accidents. Ford could have fixed this deadly problem for \$43.13 per vehicle. Instead, manufacturers hid the information for years and continued selling dangerous vehicles.

In 2005, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration—despite specific direction from Congress to increase vehicle roof safety—established auto industry-sympathetic standards mandating only minimal improvements to existing standards. For your safety, always wear your seat belt. If you or a loved one is injured in a rollover accident, we will be happy to provide a free initial consultation.

Protections for government benefits

If you or someone you know receives government benefits such as Social Security, VA benefits, or a Railroad Retirement, then you should know that these payments may be entitled to special protections under the law. For instance, these funds are exempt from garnishments filed by creditors. In fact, these funds may still be exempt even after they are deposited in a checking account.

If you or someone you know has had a problem with their benefits being seized or garnished, call us. We will be glad to see if we can help get money returned if it was illegally taken.

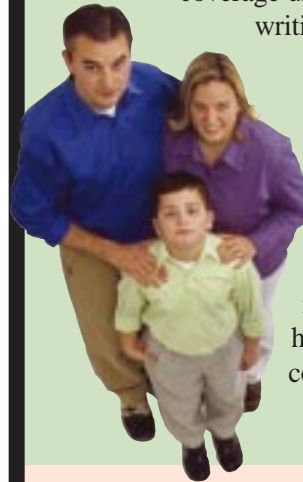


Wrecks caused by drivers without insurance

What would happen if you or your family were seriously injured in a car accident by a driver with no insurance? You might be surprised to learn that your own insurance policy could be used to help pay for medical bills and lost time from work.

There are more than 143,000 car wrecks in Alabama every year. Thankfully, few of these actually result in serious physical injury. However, some do.

We often represent clients where the person at fault did not have any car insurance. But this does not mean that there is no way to recover in these cases. The state of Alabama requires that automobile insurance companies provide uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage unless it is specifically rejected in writing.



Therefore, many folks who are injured in accidents can still recover even if they were not aware that those benefits were available to them. If you or someone you know has been hit by someone without any insurance, call us. We will be happy to provide you with a free consultation.

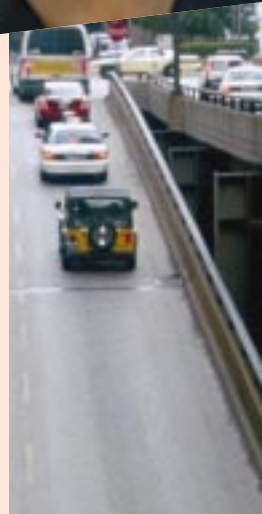
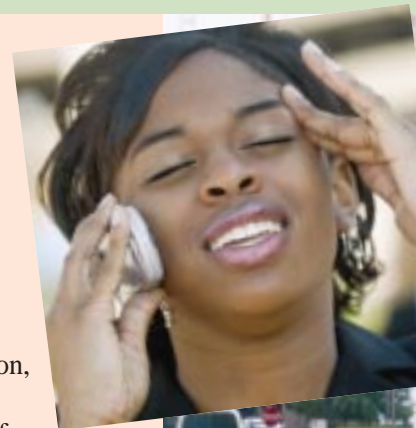
What to do after an automobile accident

First, make sure everyone is all right. Call the police and tell the officer who investigates exactly what happened. Also, report the accident to your insurance company right away. At the scene, do not discuss who may have been at fault.

What happens if the accident was the other driver's fault? If the other driver is at fault in the collision, you need to make a claim for your vehicle repairs and personal injuries against the other driver's insurance. If the other driver has insurance, that insurance company may agree you were not at fault. If so, it may pay for your repairs or pay back your insurance company if your company has already paid for the repairs. If the other driver has no insurance or not enough insurance, then you will need to make a claim against your own insurance company for uninsured/underinsured motorist benefits as well as medical payments coverage if you are injured.

If you had major damage or got hurt, you should call a lawyer. Most lawyers will represent you on a "contingent fee" basis if they believe the other driver caused the accident. This means the lawyer would keep a percentage of any money paid, but would get no fee if you do not win. Do not delay in contacting a lawyer; a prompt investigation of an accident can be crucial in determining fault.

Important reminder: Alabama state law says that you must have liability insurance for all registered vehicles. You must keep proof of current liability insurance and your current vehicle registration (tag receipt) in your car at all times.



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REFERRALS

We want you to think of us as your law firm.

If you have legal matters that need attention, please let us know. If we cannot handle the matter, we will refer you to a competent firm that can.

Please feel free to refer us to your family, friends, and neighbors for their legal needs. We welcome the opportunity to help.

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No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Birth-control-patch danger *Ortho Evra®*


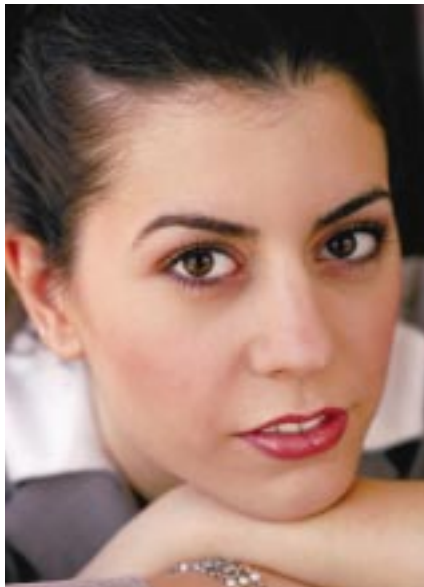
The Food and Drug Administration announced that studies have shown that the Ortho Evra® contraceptive patch may double the risk of dangerous blood clots for women using the medication.

Contraceptive patches placed on the skin may deliver significantly more estrogen to the bloodstream than oral contraceptives, increasing the potential risk of side effects.

More than 60 lawsuits have been filed against the manufacturer, Ortho McNeil Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and its parent, Johnson & Johnson. Lawsuits assert the manufacturer misled patients and health-care providers about the product's safety—and include claims of defective design, failure to warn, breach of warranty, negligence, and wrongful death.

Women who use the contraceptive patch should talk with their physicians and seek professional legal consultation. Please contact our office for more information.

© Ortho McNeil Pharmaceuticals, Inc.



Women using any form of hormonal contraception should not smoke. Smoking may further increase risk of cardiovascular disease and medication side effects.

Gastric bypass surgery

Physicians may recommend gastric bypass surgery (GBS) for overweight or unhealthy patients who have been unable to lose weight by other methods.

GBS is considered a very serious medical procedure, and physicians carefully screen candidates by age, duration of weight problems, alcohol consumption, psychological profiling, and other criteria.

Surgery may entail risks of incision infection, stomach or intestinal infections, blood clotting in the lungs, gallstone development, and nutritional deficiencies.

Infection

Although most GBS patients adhere to treatment protocols and lose weight, problems may arise. A 50-year-old patient died of stomach infection and systemic inflammation five days after her initial surgery. A claim made by her husband for negligent surgical treatment, failure to monitor her condition, and delaying repair surgery resulted in a significant jury award.