



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER- APRIL 2011



NEWS

- ▶ We are pleased to introduce the newest member of our firm. Rosanne M. Gugino, R.N., M.S., Esq., joins our legal team with 20 years of experience handling personal injury and wrongful death cases. She has extensive clinical and practical experience in the hospital environment. Prior to her career in law, Ms. Gugino was an advance practice Registered Nurse, working and teaching in Buffalo and Cleveland, Ohio as a Nurse Clinician. Ms. Gugino handles complex and catastrophic injury cases and has achieved numerous multi-million dollar verdicts on behalf of injured children, women with breast cancer, surgical patients, and the elderly. She also has successfully represented veterans in medical treatment and care cases against the United States Veterans' Administration. Ms. Gugino has tried cases in New York State Supreme Court, New York State Court of Claims, and United State District Court. She is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo Law School. Her current professional affiliations and interest span both law and medicine. Ms. Gugino is a member of the New York State Trial Lawyers' Association, New York State Academy of Trial Advocacy, Board of Advisors of the American Cancer Society, and the Gratwick Society of Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

RECENT CASE OF NOTE

- ▶ BROWN CHIARI LLP achieved a significant appellate victory in the area of teen drinking. Late last year the New York State Court of Appeals determined that parents hosting a teenage party have an obligation — once alcohol is discovered to have been used — to see that the minors have a safe way home. This case involved a party given by a 17-year old high school student with her parents' permission and while her parents were home. The parents maintained that they had no knowledge alcohol was being consumed on their premises, and once they discovered that alcohol had been consumed, they terminated the party and sent the minors home. We claimed that the parents had a duty, after discovering alcohol was being consumed, to see that these teenagers had a safe means home. As it turns out, our client got in a car with another partygoer who was intoxicated, and was involved in a very serious auto crash. The case against the parents was dismissed and we fought the case all the way to the highest court in the State of New York. In reversing the lower court, the Court of Appeals further defined the obligations of parents hosting a party involving teenage drinking.



Contact us today!

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