



# Compensation

**bartletts** Personal Injury Newsletter  
solicitors Experience, Expertise and Excellence since 1860

Autumn / Winter 2009  
Chester

## No Win No Fee on...

- ▶ Road Traffic Accidents
- ▶ Accidents at Work
- ▶ Children's Accidents
- ▶ Industrial Injury / Disease
- ▶ Cycling Accidents
- ▶ Accidents in a Public Place

# 0800 072 4248

The Accident Specialists



## Welcome

Welcome to our newsletter for clients of Bartletts Solicitors. We hope you find the articles of interest and look forward to speaking to you, if we can be of assistance.



## Road traffic hazards increase in winter

As winter approaches, we always see an increase in road traffic accidents, due to a number of hazards combining together. As the clocks go back more journeys are made in the dark and in poor weather conditions - low sun, fog, heavy rain, winds, ice and occasionally snow. In addition, as we approach Christmas, there is also the risk of encountering a driver who has been drinking and who is unable to control their car.

Whiplash is the most common form of injury sustained in a road traffic accident. A small number of more serious accidents on the roads can leave drivers and their passengers with critical injuries that last a lifetime. Obtaining adequate compensation is essential to ensuring quality of life and we can help you with this, whatever your level of injury.

All motor vehicles - cars, motorcycles and commercial vehicles - are required by law to hold insurance to cover their liability in the event of any road traffic accident. For a successful compensation claim you would need to prove that another person was responsible



for your personal injury, so you should take contact details of any witnesses to the accident, record registration numbers together with details of all drivers involved, and even take photographs if possible.

[www.TheAccidentSpecialists.co.uk](http://www.TheAccidentSpecialists.co.uk)

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# Did your trolley dash have a sticky end?



Have you had an accident in a supermarket or a shopping mall? Accidents in shopping centres and supermarkets are more common than you think as there are a wide range of hazards that can cause an accident, including:

- stray produce, such as grapes or tomatoes
- wet spillages, such as yoghurt, water from frozen food or toiletries
- stray baskets or packaging
- dangerous matting
- spilt food and drink, where there is an in store cafe.

If you have a fall and are injured whilst shopping, you need to check what caused you to slip or fall, report the accident immediately to a member of staff and ensure that full facts are recorded in an accident report book.

If the management of the supermarket or shopping mall is at fault, due to poor cleaning or inadequate health and safety procedures then you may be entitled to compensation.

**If you, or anyone you know, have had an accident in a supermarket, or any private premises, then contact our experienced team today.**

## How high did you fall?

**Falls from a height are one of the most common causes of serious injuries and fatalities in the workplace. In the year 2007/08 there were 58 deaths and nearly 110,000 injuries resulting in three or more days off work, according to the Health and Safety Executive.**

Ladders cause the greatest number of deaths and injuries and other falls are typically from roofs and scaffolding - but a fall from height does not necessarily have to be from a great height.

The Work at Height Regulations describe a place as "at height" if a person could be injured falling from it, even if it is at or below ground level. This includes using even a small step ladder, which would be common for shop assistants.



The regulations place duties upon employers, the self-employed and anyone who controls the work of others and there is a simple hierarchy which managers should follow:

- avoid work at height where possible
- if not possible to avoid, then provide work equipment or other measures to prevent falls
- if you cannot minimise the risk of a fall, then carry out a risk assessment and provide work equipment or other measures to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall if it should occur.

Employers also need to ensure that work is properly planned and organised, staff have been trained, equipment is inspected and the risk from falling objects is controlled.

If you have been injured from a fall from a ladder, roof or scaffolding, or even a small step ladder, and you think that your employer had not taken sufficient steps to ensure your safety, then you may be entitled to compensation. **Please call us to discuss your particular circumstances.**

**100% COMPENSATION  
GUARANTEED**

**NO WIN - NO FEE**

**MAXIMUM COMPENSTION  
MINIMUM FUSS**

# Accident at work - is your employer liable ?

By law, your employer must protect your health, safety and welfare whilst at work. They have this duty of care whether you are employed full-time, part-time, on a temporary contract, as an apprentice, a home-worker, volunteer or even on work-experience. If you are employed by an agency, then the agency has a legal duty to ensure that your rights are not infringed.

Typical accidents at work include:

- slips and trips on dangerous surfaces
- falls, when working at height
- lifting heavy objects
- accidents when using equipment and machinery.

Employers must have compulsory employer's liability insurance and a certificate should be visible in the workplace. They should also provide, free of charge:

- training to do your job safely
- appropriate protective clothing and equipment - such as boots, hat, mask, eye protection
- health checks, if there is a danger of ill health because of your work, for example, if you work in a noisy environment.

You have a duty to co-operate with your employer in making the workplace safe and adhering to health and safety regulations.

If you have an accident at work, you should report it as soon as possible and make sure that it is recorded in the accident book. If there is no accident book - you should write to your employer confirming that you were involved in an accident with details of what happened, when and where.

If you have had an accident, you should visit the doctor even if it does not seem too serious. The doctor will record the details of the accident, which may be useful later if you need to claim benefits or wish to claim compensation.

You may not have had an accident as such, but could have become ill due to the nature of the work that you perform or the environment in which you work.

If your injury or illness is a result of the fact that your employer has failed to comply with their health and safety obligations, then you may be entitled to compensation. **Talk to one of our personal injury team to discuss your particular circumstances.**



## REFER A FRIEND AND GET £150

If you are an existing client of Bartletts Solicitors then you can refer a friend who has been involved in an accident which was not their fault and receive £150.00.\*

If you know someone who has been involved in an accident, which wasn't their fault, contact us now so we can arrange for them to have a free initial consultation with a fully trained solicitor who is an expert in the field.

Call FREE on 0800 072 4248

Log onto [www.TheAccidentSpecialists.co.uk](http://www.TheAccidentSpecialists.co.uk)

Email: [piclaims@BartlettsLaw.co.uk](mailto:piclaims@BartlettsLaw.co.uk)

\*Once we have accepted the case we will send you £150.00 - It's that easy!



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MINIMUM FUSS

# Win £250 in Bartletts prize draw

From taking our own bags to the supermarket to separating and recycling rubbish, we're all doing our best to act in a more environmentally friendly way these days.

Whether it's switching off lights, making sure appliances are not left on standby or walking to the local shop instead of taking the car, we know that the small things really do add up when it comes to looking after the planet.

So here at Bartletts Solicitors we are trying to bring good eco habits into the way we do our business.

One of the ways we are doing this is by offering you the opportunity to receive some future communications by e-mail, helping

to save paper and reduce our carbon footprint.

Simply e-mail your name, address and case reference number to [prizedraw@bartlettslaw.co.uk](mailto:prizedraw@bartlettslaw.co.uk) and we will ensure that where appropriate we send you communications via email.

Send in your email address and as a thank you for helping us work towards a greener future we will also enter you in a special draw to win £250 cash.

Don't delay - register for our emailing list today and secure your chance of winning £250.

**Prize draw closing date is 12 December 2009.**



## Meet the Personal Injury Team

If we can help you regarding any of the matters raised in this newsletter please contact:



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