

Seufert Law Offices, PA We'll Get You Through It



Well as you many of you have read in my earlier posts, my kids are somewhat -well very- redneck in their approach to many things in life. Now as traditions go, when an expectant mother announces her pregnancy, most of her lady friends organize a baby shower. Plans are made, venue chosen, announcments go out, gifts purchased. Sometimes the men folk attend, but not traditionally. Not being chauvensitic but of the male audience here, raise your hands as to how many of you have attended a baby shower.

Traditional baby showers are now seemingly being eclipsed by this new "gender reveal" party. You know, where the

expectant mother's lady friends organize an event, venue chosen, announcements go out, blue or pink – well you get the drift. And then an ultrasound is taken from the envelope please, and it's a...

So let's cycle back to my kids. My younger son, sneaking up on his 3rd decade of life, announced a few months ago that they were expecting a second child. This would make my 9th grandchild to date, but who's counting. And he asks if the venue can be the gravel pit the family owns, but in December. Not much more detail is leaked to the family but to arrive at 2 pm on Dec. 9, 2018.

So on the given day family starts arriving at the gravel pit. Being in Hill, NH at somewhat an elevation, there is a good deal of snow on the ground so 4-wheel drive is required. When I finally arrive there are about 25 vehicles, a ripping bonfire of discarded pallets and logs ablaze, a commercial size gas skillet cooking burgers and dogs for the crowd, and in the distance, up one of the gravel slopes, is Frosty the Snowman made of fresh snow from the night before and standing 6-foot tall, with a corn cob pipe, top hat, and two eyes made out of coal. Before too much partying transpires my son has my \$3000.00 custom made 7.62 sniper rifle set up on its tripod on the roof of his pickup truck. And there is Frosty about 200 yards away smiling ear to ear- oblivious. My son tells the gathered family to look downrange at Frosty and he touches off a round at Frosty's top hat, or what is hiding beneath it. •









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Minimize the Hazards of Winter Weather Driving



Snow, blowing snow, sleet, and ice can make winter driving an adventure. Take the following precautions to more safely navigate the roadways.

Avoid driving on bad weather days if possible, but if you must head out,

clear your hood, bumpers, and all lights of snow. NH law requires all snow be removed from vehicles prior to operation on the roadways, but how many times have you been traveling down I-93 behind a tractor trailer truck when a large sheet of ice flies into, or just past, your windshield.

Mind your speed. Posted speed limits are intended for ideal road conditions. You can be well under the speed limit but still be driving too fast for conditions. The National Safety Council recommends a three-second following distance in good driving conditions. Double that, at least, in inclement winter weather. When the NH DOT lowers the speed limits on the roadways the road side signs illuminating that now become the legal speed limits until the post is removed.

Know your brakes. Antilock brakes should not be pumped. Maintain steady pressure when braking in snow and ice. "Regular" brakes should be pumped to avoid skidding. If your car begins to fishtail, steer in the direction you want to go.

Don't pass a snowplow. Stay at least six car lengths behind an operating plow and move away from the center line when one is approaching.

Winter conditions present unique driving challenges. If you've been injured by another driver's negligence, or flying snow and ice off from another vehicle, contact an auto accident attorney to protect your rights. •

If Earth's Magnetic Poles Flip the Switch....

The earth is surrounded by a magnetic field that projects thousands of miles into space. It protects the earth's surface from the damaging effects of space radiation, including highly charged particles from the sun that would otherwise strip the earth of its atmosphere.

There are two magnetic poles: north (negative polarity) and south (positive polarity). They are constantly shifting due to dynamic activity within the earth's outer, molten core—where the magnetic field is generated.

For the past century, the magnetic field has been weakening, prompting concerns that the magnetic poles could soon flip ("soon" in geologic time can still be thousands of years). This phenomenon occurs roughly every 300,000 years on average. However, the last time it happened was over 780,000 years ago, so we might be overdue.



If the magnetic poles were to flip today, the impact could be profound. When a flip occurs, the magnetic field's strength will be diminished for longer than anyone would like. That means life on earth would be more susceptible to the damaging effects of space radiation until the magnetic field's strength rebounded.

Many scientists speculate that some currently habitable areas of the earth would become uninhabitable. Power grids and communications systems would likely suffer severe interruptions, which could cause mayhem and economic devastation. Animals navigate by innately utilizing the magnetic field. They would be thrown for a loop temporarily but would likely adjust. There has been no indication that past magnetic-pole flips caused extinctions.

A magnetic-pole reversal will inevitably happen. The good news is that we probably have time to develop new technologies and other countermeasures to survive the earth's magnetic personality. •

Alcohol Ignition **Interlock Devices**

Alcohol Ignition Interlock Device is defined as a system or device that connects a breath analyzer to a motor vehicle's ignition system, which measures the concentration of alcohol in the breath of any person who attempts to start a motor vehicle. The device prevents the variuary 2019 Notable Date vehicle from starting unless the person provides a breath sample with a concentration of alcohol that is below a preset level, in New Hampshire it is a .025.

Currently, there are two vendors authorized to install these devices.

Approved Vendors:

Cathy's Corner

- Draeger, Inc. (800) 332-6858
- Intoxalock (833) 210-8425

If you have received notification from the DMV that you are required to have an ignition interlock device installed, you must present a Certificate of Installation issued by an approved vendor to the Bureau of Financial Responsibility at the Concord DMV office.

License Restriction

Once the Certificate of Installation has been presented to the Bureau of Financial Responsibility, you will be required to have an Alcohol Interlock Device restriction added to your driver license. In other words, a notation that you are required to have such a device will be visible on your license.

January 3 National Fruitcake Toss Day

January 5 National Bird Day

January 8 National Winter Skin Relief Day

> January 12 National Pharmacist Day

> > January 16 National Nothing Day

January 21 Squirrel Appreciation Day

> January 28 National Kazoo Day

> January 29 National Puzzle Day

Duration

Unless otherwise indicated by the court, the duration that the device is required to be installed would be calculated from the date of restoration of the NH license/operating privilege. So, if you are required to have the device installed for twelve months, that time period does not start until your license is restored. Unfortunately, people sometimes assume that it starts from the day of conviction.



Transferring from Out of State

If you are transferring your license from another state and you have an Alcohol Interlock Device restriction, this restriction will transfer to your New Hampshire driver license.

Removal of Restriction/Device

The law which defines the Ignition Interlock Device Removal Protocol requires that prior to the removal of an Ignition Interlock Device from a vehicle, the Ignition Interlock Device provider shall obtain a certificate of removal from the department's interlock coordinator.

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Social Media Can Ruin Your Personal Injury Case

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, and other social media platforms have a few things in common: They're fun, easy to use, and can wipe out your personal injury case with one ill-advised post.

Insurance adjusters, investigators, and defense attorneys will try to tear down your case from the get-go. And social media is a treasure trove of comments, photos, and videos that can be twisted and taken out of context to damage your credibility and attack the legitimacy of your injuries.

For instance, you may want to support a friend by attending his/her wedding, despite your current injury. At the reception you raise your arms for all of two seconds as you walk across the dance floor. Frozen in time in a photograph, that one action can make it look like you were busting moves all night.

Many people mistakenly believe their social media posts will be off-limits if their privacy settings are properly configured. Not so. Defense attorneys are frequently able to legally gain access to supposedly private posts, pins, and comments, and if not then are routinely seeking subpoenas to get this information in just about every case.

Even your Google searches can be used against you. If you look up information on zip-lining, that may be distorted to portray you in a negative light.

Erasing past posts won't do any good. Nothing you post online ever really disappears. Also, family members and friends active on social media could be revealing information about you that can be manipulated. Ask them to refrain from posting anything involving you.

If you have been injured due to someone's negligence, contact a personal injury attorney. It's also wise to stay off social media altogether while a claim is pending. •