



The Group with the Scoop

Wrongful Death | Car Accidents | Defective Products

what's inside

page 2

Citizen spotlight:
Reuben Perdue

Don't be fooled –
Insurance adjusters
aren't your friends

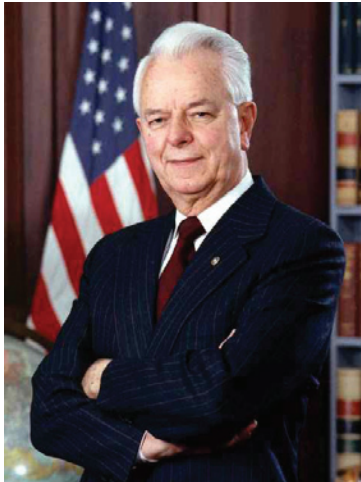
page 3

Slip and fall accidents

August FAQ

page 4

Someone stole my
identity – Now what?



WEST VIRGINIA'S Robert C. Byrd

Robert C. Byrd, West Virginia's greatest statesman and the longest

serving congressman in United States history, died on June 28, 2010, at the age of 92. While Senator Byrd was well known for his dedication to his faith, his family and the United States Constitution, the people of north central West Virginia will long remember him for his efforts to build and maintain our region's infrastructure and institutions through Federal funding.

More than 40 structures in West Virginia are named for Senator Byrd. The most notable one that bears his name in North Central West Virginia is Robert C. Byrd High School in Clarksburg, which opened in 1995.

Although the late Senator had his hand in almost everything Federal in nature that happened in West Virginia, his single greatest direct impact on this region was the relocation of the FBI's national fingerprint identification center from Washington

D.C. to Harrison County. Senator Byrd added the \$185 million in funding to move the center to an appropriations bill in May of 1990. Today the FBI's Harrison County Complex employs over 3,000 people and has had an immeasurable impact on our economy.

Other of Senator Byrd's contributions to North Central West Virginia include the NASA facility in Fairmont, Robert C. Byrd Institute for Flexible Manufacturing in Bridgeport, West Virginia University Health Sciences Trauma Center, Blanchette Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute (Byrd appropriated \$30 million in construction funding for the center, which was named for Sen. Jay Rockefeller's mother), and the West Virginia Coal and Energy Technology center in Morgantown.

We want to honor Senator Byrd's accomplishments and the strong moral values that guided him. We have lost so much by losing him but feel so blessed to have had his leadership for so many years. North Central West Virginia, like the rest of the State and our nation, will sorely miss Senator Robert C. Byrd. ■



Fighting like a Tiger for you!

citizen spotlight:

REUBEN PERDUE, WAJR FM
CLARKSBURG TALK RADIO HOST

Name: Reuben Perdue

Age: 34

Job Title: The News Director for West Virginia Radio Clarksburg – Reuben writes, researches, prepares, and records all the news casts covering their four station cluster and hosts the Morning Edition from Monday thru Friday on WAJR FM.

Hobbies: When he has time, he enjoys watching sports (especially soccer), watching movies, playing video games and anything like that to help him relax.

Years in broadcasting: 19 years

Where are you from and how did you get here? Originally from Ohio but chose this position, over other offers in different states, because he knew it would fit his desires the most. He especially liked the opportunity to host the Morning Edition.

What are your plans when you retire? Reuben has no plans to retire. He loves his job so it's never occurred to him that there would be a life without it.

What qualities of your father influenced you the most? His father instilled in him a strong sense of right and wrong plus the candor to speak his opinion.

What is the most difficult part of being a radio talk show host? The most difficult part is keeping the show fresh and new while still being educational and entertaining.

What is the best piece of advice you ever got? While not directly given to him, Reuben draws inspiration from a quote by George Bernard Shaw, "The secret to success is to offend the greatest number of people." In this business, saying what you believe is not going to make everyone happy, but it does make for compelling radio. He will not compromise his beliefs to appease people that disagree with him.

What is the most unique interview you have ever done? Interviewing WV native David Mills, the author of *Atheist Universe*. Reuben interviewed Mr. Mills two years ago and still gets comments. In fact, he got an email the day before this interview regarding it.

What is the worst thing that has ever happened to you during a live radio show? He got a nose bleed while on air and it continued for the entire live show. Fortunately, just he and his guest knew, were able to remain calm, and finish the interview.

What is the biggest change in radio that you have seen? Automated technology has replaced many of the responsibilities that were formerly done by disc jockeys. There is not the same personal touch that relates as closely with the audience. It has been a hard shift for Reuben because that was originally one of the appealing factors that drew him to radio.

What advice would you give our readers? Do not take any one person's word on issues. Research everything yourself because everyone has an angle and/or agenda.



Reuben Perdue

don't be fooled

INSURANCE ADJUSTERS AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS

It's something we see all the time — a person who has suffered injuries in a car accident receives a phone call from the other driver's insurance company at some point after the accident.

The insurance company representative seems very nice and very helpful. They seem like they just want to ask a couple of questions, maybe talk a little bit about what happened during the accident. In fact, they seem genuinely concerned.

Don't be fooled.

An insurance adjuster who calls you after an accident has only one thing in mind: To help the insurance company maximize its profits by paying out as little as possible on your claim, or, in the best case scenario for them, deny your claim completely or just make it go away.

Insurance adjusters are well trained and most are very good at what they do. They'll use all sorts of tricks to see if they can get you to admit some level of responsibility for the accident; they'll discourage you from retaining a lawyer; they may offer a low-ball settlement and declare that it's the absolute best offer you will get; they'll tell you that the courts are all backed up and that it will take years for you to get any money if you don't accept their offer. The list goes on and on.

So, what's your best recourse if you or a loved one receives a call from an insurance adjuster who "just wants to talk" or wants you to give them a recorded statement? Politely decline the offer and make an appointment for a free consultation with an experienced personal injury attorney to make sure that your rights are protected. ■

slip and fall accidents

Nearly every one of us has slipped and fallen at some point in our lives, and we often end up with just a few bumps or bruises to show for our misfortune. Other times, though, a slip and fall accident can lead to serious injuries which may be caused by someone else's negligence.

While there is no precise way to determine who is liable for a slip and fall, there are some general rules that come into play. In general, to hold another person legally responsible for injuries you suffer from a fall on someone else's property, one of the following three elements must be proved:

- That the owner of the business or premises (or one of his or her employees) caused the condition that led to your fall. Some examples might be a spill on a floor or a wear spot or tear in a carpet.
- That the owner or employee knew about the dangerous condition and made the decision to not do anything about it.
- That the owner or employee should have known about a dangerous condition since a reasonable



person at the property or business would have discovered the problem and taken steps to repair it, remove it, or clean it up.

If you've suffered injuries from a slip and fall on someone else's property and think they may be responsible, contact our office to set up a consultation with an experienced personal injury attorney. ■

August Update

Kids are heading back to school soon — please be alert and keep our children safe!

FAQ



What if I am injured in a car accident that happens out of state?

If you suffer injuries as a result of a car accident in a different state, it is important that you consult with an experienced car accident attorney to review the details of the accident.

Many laws, including how much time you have to file a claim and where you have to file, vary from state to state (and personal injury claim to claim) and can impact your ability to collect damages for your injuries. There may also be instances in which it is more advantageous to file a suit in the state in which the accident occurred. Don't make the mistake of trying to handle an accident claim by yourself, especially if the accident happened in another state. ■



Fighting like a Tiger for you!

The Miley Legal Group

230 W Pike Street, Suite 205

Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: (304) 326-1800

Senator Byrd



LOSING MORE THAN JUST AN ICON
SEE PAGE ONE.

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

someone stole my identity

NOW WHAT?

Around nine million Americans are the victim of identity theft every year according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Thieves use the stolen information to apply for credit, sign leases, buy cars, obtain government documents, or establish phone or utility service with no intention of paying on those accounts. That negative information can then impact the victims' credit report and often goes unnoticed until they are called by a debt collector or denied for a loan because of bad credit.

If you find that you have become a victim of identity theft, take the following steps:

- File a police report.

- Provide a copy of the police report to major credit reporting agencies – Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. This will give you some legal protection by blocking any further harmful information from appearing on the report.
- File an ID Theft Complaint with the FTC.
- Contact all of your financial institutions.
- Contact an attorney who is experienced in handling identity theft cases.

For helpful tips about preventing identity theft and protecting your personal information, please go to www.ftc.gov. ■

Call us at **(304) 326-1800**