

# Petition

Via Fax

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## Resort Torts

Summer travel is upon us. Each year thousands of personal tragedies and losses could be prevented by following well recognized travel tips. Whether your means of transportation is by common carrier, automobile, bicycle or even on **horseback**, the travel web sites listed on page (2) may be of interest to you personally, and help litigate your travel torts.



## \$5.2 Million Settlement - Jacuzzi Electrical Negligence

Jacuzzis and hot tubs can be sources of injury and death. Electrical equipment must be installed, maintained and repaired in compliance with national standards. (See below.)

Gary Batz was electrocuted when he exited his jacuzzi and came in contact with a hot electrical wire. *Batz v. Florida Development*. LLRM Partners **John Leighton** and **Ira Leesfield** represented plaintiff.

## Clients from Around the World

LLRM representative results:



- **Germany**  
Schultz Family - hotel in the Caribbean - wrongful death/burns - **confidential settlement**



- **England**  
Claire Morbey  
- Orlando auto accident rental car  
- **\$800,000 settlement**



- **Japan**  
Morizane Family - jet ski struck by a motor boat in Key West - wrongful death - **confidential settlement**



- **France**  
Danielle Hanstein  
- Key West bicycle accident  
- **\$300,000 settlement**



⚡ **Residential Electrical Safety Checklist:**  
[www.energyright.com/mseb/safety.htm](http://www.energyright.com/mseb/safety.htm)

⚡ **Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE):** [www.ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org)

⚡ **National Electric Code Internet Connection:** [www.mikeholt.com](http://www.mikeholt.com)

⚡ **Electric Safety Menu:**  
[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/boyce\\_smith/safelink.htm](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/boyce_smith/safelink.htm)

## Overheated Hot Tub – Brain Damage

The plaintiff's child suffered in vitro brain damage when the hot tub overheated resulting in a substantial settlement for this family. (Settlement confidential.) **Ira Leesfield** represented plaintiff.

Ira H. Leesfield • John Elliott Leighton • Maria L. Rubio • George G. Mahfood • Robert B. Boyers  
Patricia M. Kennedy • Mark A. Sylvester • Thomas Scolaro

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## Cruise Ship and Hotel Security



### Cruise Collision - Class Action

Partner **George Mahfood** and Senior Litigator **Patricia Kennedy** recently filed a multi-million dollar class action against Norwegian Cruise Lines on behalf of John and Mary Hutton

and all passengers who were aboard the Norwegian Dream on August 24, 1999, when it collided with the Ever Decent in the English Channel. *Case No. 99-2383-CIV-MORENO/DUBE, United States District Court, Southern District of Florida.* According to Partner **George Mahfood** a cruise ship is nothing more than a floating hotel and it owes its passengers the same or higher duty as a land-based lodging facility.



### Watch Out For Icebergs!

Partner **Maria Rubio** recently resolved *Cummings v. Carnival Corporation*, (negligence aboard

a cruise), for a confidential amount. Maria reminds all attorneys of the venue and statute of limitations provision contained in passengers' tickets. Typically, venue is set in Miami-Dade County since most passenger cruise lines are headquartered here.

Cruise tickets usually contain a provision which requires passengers who are injured to a six-month notice requirement and a one-year statute of limitations requirement.

### Inadequate Hotel Security

Beware of your personal security. Walter Pfarr was attacked in the parking lot of the defendant's motel. Adequate lighting and security would have prevented this tragic ending to Mr. Pfarr's South Florida trip according to Partner **John Leighton** who recovered **\$275,000** based upon defendant's inadequate security.

## Injuries on Horseback – Confidential Settlement



Partners **Robert B. Boyers** and **Ira Leesfield** recently resolved an equestrian case for a young child thrown by an untrained horse resulting in major trauma and multiple injuries. For helpful research on equestrian and horseback standards, see web sites below.

### Equestrian and Horseback Standards – Research and Web Sites

- **American Medical Equestrian Association:**  
<http://www.law.utexas.edu/dawson/amea/amea.htm>.
- **Ontario Equestrian Federation Recommendations for Safety Standards:** <http://www.horse.on.ca/WhatsNew/PressReleases/Press/SafetyStandards.htm>
- **American Horse Council:** <http://www.horsecouncil.org>
- **SCA-wide Equestrian Regulations Handbook:**  
<http://www.spiaggia.org/equestrian>
- **ASTM Equestrian Helmet:**  
<http://www.horse-country.com/safety3.html>
- **American Association for Horsemanship Safety:**  
(512) 488-2220
- **American Youth Horse Council:** (800) 879-2942

### Travel Web Sites

#### Boating Safety Litigation Tips:

<http://www.mailbag.com/users/stobo76/cbpwc.html>  
**and**, <http://www.tcmall.com/>

**Bicycle Litigation Safety Tips:** <http://www.bhsi.org/>

#### AAA Car Rental Tips:

[www.aaa.com/carrentaltips/help/educ.htm](http://www.aaa.com/carrentaltips/help/educ.htm)

**Florida Travel Page:** <http://www.florida-sun.com/sun/>

**Florida Keys Tourist Info\*:** <http://www.fl-keys.com/>

\*While in Key West, please visit our office at 615 1/2 Whitehead Street. For special points of interest, restaurants, and lodging recommendations, email us at **Leesfield@aol.com**.

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