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- Trucking Accidents
- Drunk Driving Victims
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Bus Accidents
- Bicycle Accidents
- Pedestrian Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Insurance Disputes
- Product Liability
- Aviation Accidents
- Defective Drugs
- Nursing Home Neglect / Abuse
- Workers' Comp Claims



Mr. Petis is licensed in Colorado and is a member of the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association, the Colorado Bar Association and the Denver Bar Association.

In addition to fighting for those who have been injured through no fault of their own, Mr. Petis is also actively engaged in Colorado volunteerism. Last year, he helped organize a food drive for the Colorado Food Bank in his office building. Mr. Petis is also a mentor for Colorado Youth at Risk, a community-based mentorship program that seeks to lower the number of high school dropouts by empowering teenage students to make life choices that positively impact their future.

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Winter Driving Packs a Punch in Colorado

When cold weather settles over the state, it's important for Coloradans to sharpen their driving skills and be extra defensive in their driving habits. History and the Colorado State Highway Patrol will attest that winter is one of the most dangerous times to be on the road in Colorado.



According to a national study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, more than 100 people die per day in car accidents across the US between Thanksgiving and New Year's. Pedestrians are also at increased risk during the winter, accounting for 13 percent of crash fatalities.

During our winter months, it pays to follow these helpful tips for motorists:

Car/Truck Readiness – Before we're in the throes of winter, get your car serviced. Have a professional check your battery, tires, coolant, heater, windshield wiper fluid and defroster. Make sure there are no leaks and have your car winterized. A little precaution early on can save you from being stranded out in the cold, or blinded by slush and snow your wipers can't clear.

Emergency Supplies – No one ever thinks they'll be the person who gets stranded, but each year it happens to a surprising number of individuals. Protect yourself by keeping an emergency kit in your vehicle.

Your kit should contain blankets, food supplies, water, rope, first aid kit, cat litter for traction and a flashlight. In addition to these items, jumper cables, an ice scraper, a jack and spare tire should be in your car year-round.

Beware of Black Ice – It's impossible to see black ice and it can be deadly. Your first sign that black ice is present may be feeling your car sliding across the road. Your best safeguard against black ice conditions is to reduce your speed and travel at a steady pace. Do not brake suddenly at high speed or you could end up spinning or even rolling your car.

Here's a rule of thumb: allow at least three times as much space as usual between your vehicle and the one in front of you. If your rear tires skid, take your foot off the accelerator and steer in the direction you want the front to go. If your rear wheels are heading left, steer left. If they skid right, steer right.

Invest in GPS – A GPS device in your car can be a lifesaver. If you are traveling through unfamiliar territory, let GPS technology give you your bearings, so you can safely reach your destination. If you need to walk for help, the GPS can also give you a good idea of how far you are from services.

Be Smart If You Get Stuck – Don't spin your wheels. Instead turn your steering wheel from side to side a few times and

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New Home For Bachus & Schanker

Bachus & Schanker is pleased to announce that the Denver office has moved to a new space at 1899 Wynkoop Street, Suite 700. The office has an entire floor of the 400,000 square foot building near Union Station in Lower Downtown.

The Denver office of Bachus & Schanker opened in 1996 and has grown considerably in the last 15 years to a staff of more than 35 people.

Our new office is a state-of-the-art space that allows us to utilize the latest technology to meet the needs of our clients. Our full mock courtroom in the new office will assist with jury projects. The courtroom will also have three breakout session rooms equipped with audio and visual monitoring. This will enable clients whose cases are selected for trial to view and listen to mock jurors deliberate on their cases before a real jury is ever picked. This technology will help us obtain the most accurate and useful information regarding the potential outcomes of our clients’ cases at trial.

There are four large conference rooms to host continuing legal education presentations and seminars at our offices. This enables the attorneys at our firm and our colleagues in the legal community to keep abreast of the changes in personal injury law.

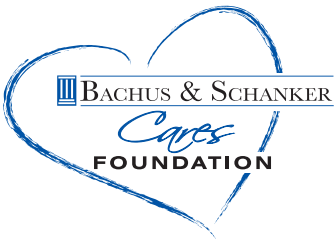
About 1899 Wynkoop Denver Office Building
1899 Wynkoop is a premier class A office building located in lower down-



town Denver. This building is within walking distance to Union Station, Light Rail and minutes from I-25. Nearby amenities include fine dining, Coors Field, breweries and Denver’s exciting night life. 1899 Wynkoop was Denver’s first new downtown office building in 15 years when it was constructed in 2000. 1899 recently received LEED Gold designation from the U.S. Green Building Council.

If you’re searching for a car accident attorney in Denver, we can help. Bachus & Schanker’s Colorado lawyers serve the entire metro area and surrounding suburbs.

Call our law office at (866) 382-0706 for your FREE consultation with a Denver personal injury attorney.



learning about the canyon’s history and geology, building a valuable outdoor skills set and developing a sense of group camaraderie that won’t soon fade. Each of the 20 students expressed gratitude to both BCSF and G.O.A.L.S., with one writing in their trip journal:

“Because of you, I have been able to live in a different world for the past 4 days. My road has been transformed into a river, my ceiling has been replaced by the starry night sky, and the canyon is now my home. Raging rapids have pushed me to overcome fears and realize the importance that going past your comfort zone is what makes life interesting. I will never forget this experience you have allowed me to have. Because of your generosity, I have learned life-long lessons that will change who I am forever. Thank you.”

G.O.A.L.S. programs take place on rivers throughout the western US and can be customized for a variety of youth groups - including but not limited to science classes interested in the canyon’s countless “-ology’s”; sports teams focused on leadership and teamwork skills; art students studying the unique canyon landscape for inspiration; and inner city youth who want the experience of sleeping under the stars and cooking on the beach. Groups consist of trained professional river guides, an educator or facilitator to lead the group and a G.O.A.L.S. representative. If you would like to support G.O.A.L.S. or organize a group of your own to experience first-hand the powerful lessons that the canyon classroom delivers, please visit www.goals4youth.org.



Bachus & Schanker Cares Foundation Spotlight

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lightly accelerate to ease your car free. Kitty litter is a good trick to establish traction in slick snow. Consider keeping a small bag in your trunk. Also, a small shovel stored in your trunk is great for digging out snow impeding your wheels.

All said, some of the worst accidents at any time of year can’t be blamed on the weather. For those, the culprit is often alcohol. According to a NHTSA study from 2001-2005, 31 percent of all motor vehicle accidents involved a drunk driver. In 2010, Colorado law enforcement officials arrested more than 1,600 motorists for DUI offenses between Thanksgiving and New Year’s alone.

When you factor in the influence of alcohol, you’ll begin to understand how the 10 deadliest days on Colorado’s highways aren’t all in winter, but rather are spread throughout the year.

Always make a plan if you are planning to drink. Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) helps with their “Make a Plan” initiative that encourages drivers to pledge to make alternate arrangements such as a designated driver or taxi instead of drinking and driving.

Winter Driving (cont’d)

10 Deadliest Days of the Year To Drive:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. July 4 | 6. August 6 |
| 2. July 3 | 7. August 4 |
| 3. December 23 | 8. August 12 |
| 4. August 3 | 9. July 2 |
| 5. January 1 | 10. September 2 |

Contact Us For Help
Bachus & Schanker supports Colorado citizens who have been victims of auto accidents.

If you or a loved one has been injured in an accident, please contact Bachus & Schanker, LLC. Our dedicated team of attorneys can help you evaluate your case and ensure the protection of your rights.

Call today for a FREE consultation: 866-382-0706.

If you’ve experienced birth defects after taking anti-depressants, call the attorneys at Bachus & Schanker, LLC for a

FREE CONSULTATION

866.382.0706

*available 24 hours
7 days a week*

Studies Show Anti-Depressants May Lead to Birth Defects

Zoloft and Paxil belong to a class of drugs known as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors or SSRIs. These drugs are used to treat depression, anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD). The drugs are designed to increase the neurotransmitter brain chemical known as serotonin in the hopes of treating the symptoms of depression.

These drugs have been linked to risks of developmental birth defects in infants whose mothers took the medication during pregnancy. There are a variety of lawsuits pending by individuals looking to recover damages as patients were not warned of the risks to their unborn babies of taking Zoloft, Paxil and other anti-depressants.

Birth defects linked to these medications are

Atrial Septal Defects (ASD) and Ventricular Septal Defects (VSD). Both are heart abnormalities that cause openings between the dividing walls or chambers of the infant’s heart and the complications often require surgery. Other birth defects include Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension (PPH), lung and limb defects, and neural tube defects.

Studies have shown that women who took antidepressants during the first three months of pregnancy were much more likely to have a child with a congenital heart defect. In addition, mothers who took antidepressants after the 20th week of pregnancy were nearly six times as likely to have a baby develop PPH.

If you or a loved one has suffered from birth defects after taking Zoloft, Paxil or other anti-depressants, you may be entitled to compensation. Contact our experienced attorneys for a FREE and immediate initial consultation at 866-382-0706.