

Featured Case:

Jeep Cherokee Rollaway Danger

In April 2016, Fiat Chrysler announced a voluntary recall of over 1M vehicles worldwide, including 2014-2015 Jeep Grand Cherokees, due to a confusing gear shift operation. Drivers were exiting their vehicles without properly shifting into park and the vehicles were rolling and crashing into objects and people. Over 300 consumers filed official complaints about the gear shift, and 30 individuals sustained serious injuries. This summer, actor Anton Yelchin died as result of being struck by his 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee. Reports detailed he had exited his vehicle, walked down his driveway, and was then impaled and trapped between his car and the guard gate. The car was running and in neutral at the time of the accident. Yelchin received his recall notice seven days after his death.

The Cooper Firm has filed two lawsuits on behalf of individuals who were injured as a result of a rolling Jeep Grand Cherokee included in the above recall.

In This Issue:

- 1 Featured Case:**
Jeep Cherokee Rollaway Danger
New Ruling States Bankruptcy Will Not Protect GM from Ignition Switch Claims
- 2 TCF Team Updates OAL Event**
- 3 Cont.:** Jeep Rollaway Attorney Partnerships The Persons Firm
- 4 Contact**

New Ruling States Bankruptcy Will Not Protect GM from Ignition Switch Claims

Recently the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the 2009 bankruptcy filing by GM will not protect the company from claims related to the defective ignition switches installed in their vehicles from the years 1997-2011.

In 2014, GM announced a voluntary recall of nearly 3 million vehicles due to an ignition switch that could slip into an accessory position, effectively turning the car off unbeknownst to the driver. This recall came about as a result of the relentless pursuit of justice by Ken & Beth Melton, the

parents of Brooke Melton who died from injuries sustained in auto accident as a result of a faulty ignition switch in her Chevrolet Cobalt. The Cooper Firm had the privilege of representing the Melton family on this case. It's important to know the outcome of the case proved that GM knew about the faulty ignition switch for years and chose not to fix it or notify vehicles owners of the issue. GM ultimately expanded the recall to nearly 30 million vehicles worldwide.



"..GM knew about the faulty ignition switch for years and chose not to fix it.."

Announcing bankruptcy in 2009 led to the creation of what was dubbed "New GM." According to the ruling, "New GM" could not be held responsible for any misconduct by "Old GM" (i.e. knowingly installing faulty ignition switches in new vehicles) and therefore were immune to any lawsuits or claims from accidents that happened prior to 2009. September's appeal changed all of that. The 2nd Circuit ruled that the bankruptcy court had no jurisdiction to free GM of those claims. The decision to file for bankruptcy does not change the fact that GM was aware of the issue and chose to hide it, denying people their right to due process since they were not notified of the safety issue prior to the filing.

This is a big win for consumers who were affected by this cover-up. We expect to see an unprecedented amount of cases come forward from accidents that occurred prior to 2009 as a result of the faulty ignition switch and the actions of GM.

Check to see if your vehicle has an active recall here: NHTSA.gov ♦

TCF Team Updates:



Welcome, Sarah Kate!

Congratulations to Drew and Anna Ashby on their pink bundle of joy! Sara Katherine Ashby ("Sarah Kate") arrived at 7:25pm on October 7th. She weighed 8lbs 12oz and was 20.75" long. All are happy and healthy!



Ashby brothers with new baby sister

An Evening of Hope:

On Saturday, October 15, The Cooper Firm hosted a silent auction benefitting Orphan Aid, Liberia. Many of our friends, family, and clients are familiar with our philanthropy. For our first time readers, Orphan Aid, Liberia was founded in 2008 by Daryl Roberts. While on a mission trip with his church to Liberia, he was struck by the sheer number of orphans and orphanages in dire need. Seeing their lack of food, clothing, and shelter, he was called to begin an organization that would provide these basic necessities of life to the children of Liberia. Since 2008, Orphan Aid, Liberia has made 20 trips to West Africa delivering food supplies, educational materials, mattresses, and clothing, among other items. They provide hope to all they come across and a sign that God's love is always present and prayers are answered.

Many members of The Cooper Firm team have made the journey to Liberia with OAL, some more than once! It is a cause that is close to all our hearts and when given the opportunity to hold a fundraiser to continue their efforts in assisting the ever-growing number of orphans in Liberia, we did not hesitate.

Together, we raised over \$90,000 on Saturday evening. Thank you to all who participated in the evening. Your donations mean the world to the life of a child.

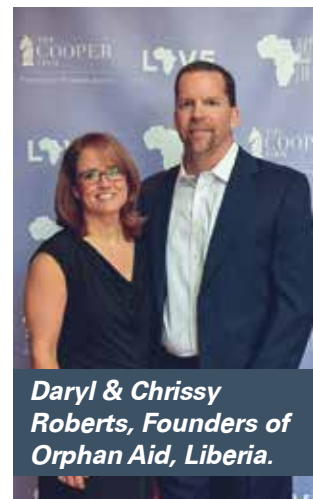
For more information about Orphan Aid, Liberia visit www.orphanaidliberia.com ♦



The OAL merchandise booth was a popular spot!



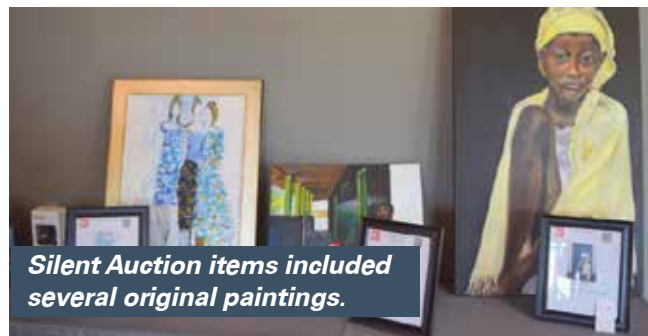
African "Money" trees for luck!



Daryl & Chrissy Roberts, Founders of Orphan Aid, Liberia.



Sherry Kerr, Chrissy Roberts, Susan Hagler & Jennifer Hall



Silent Auction items included several original paintings.



*Two Firms,
One Pursuit:
JUSTICE.*

Announcing a new partnership in product liability.

Lance Cooper, founder of The Cooper Firm, is proud to welcome Chris Glover and the personal injury team of Beasley Allen to Atlanta. With a combined experience of 64 years fighting industry giants, justice has never been more attainable.



www.thecooperfirm.com

800.317.2021

lance@thecooperfirm.com

www.beasleyallen.com

404.751.1162

chris.glover@beasleyallen.com

Working with The Persons Firm

Oftentimes, we partner, or associate, with another firm on cases. Our expertise and ability to finance a full investigation can be an asset to another attorney and ultimately to the client. Ben Persons at The Persons Firm recently asked us to partner with him on a case. Here are the details and the results.

Our client was rear-ended by a full-sized truck while stopped at a traffic light in Alpharetta, Georgia. At the scene of the collision, paramedics arrived and found our client covered in blood. She had a large laceration to her face that started at her nose and ended at her upper lip, and a second laceration across her chin through the bottom gum line, which appeared to be from her teeth going through her skin.

Our client was an up-and-coming actress with a bright future. A future that relied heavily on her physical appearance. A future that, because of the facial injuries she sustained in the collision, was quickly slipping out of her reach.

We filed suit against the at-fault driver and his employer, since the driver was working within the scope of his employment at the time of the collision. During discovery, we learned that the at-fault driver had a pattern of reckless driving. We were able to get the employer on record confirming that he knew about his employee's pattern of reckless driving and had taken no actions to prevent any such actions in the future.

The case ultimately settled for an undisclosed amount. Thank you Ben Persons and The Persons Firm for allowing us to work alongside you on this case. ♦





Relentlessly Pursuing Justice

531 Roselane Street, Suite 200
Marietta, Georgia 30060
770-427-5588 | TheCooperFirm.com



“Through years of obtaining tremendous verdicts and settlements for his clients, Lance has developed a reputation as one of the premier product liability lawyers in the country. I have associated Lance on my cases with great success and will continue to do so in the future.”

Benjamin S. Persons, IV, Esq. - The Persons Firm