



# The Insider's Legal Guide®

Vehicle Accidents

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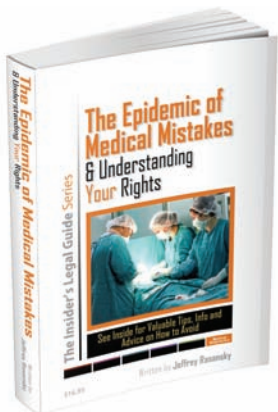
Product Liability



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## Free Malpractice Book



Check out our book site, [insiderslegalguide.com](http://insiderslegalguide.com), to get Jeff's free book on medical mistakes and understanding your rights!

## The Most Important Decision of My Life - A Year Later

Last October, we brought you the personal story of one of our very own, Krisha Inboden. At a very young age she watched as her mother courageously beat breast cancer on two separate occasions. Her aunt and grandmother both had bouts with breast cancer before that. It's safe to say, Krisha knows breast cancer.

It was this exposure at a young age and the birth of her own daughter, Jordyn, that motivated her to take steps to ensure her family wouldn't have to go through the same heart-breaking battles that she went through with her mother.

Understanding the fact that breast cancer can be a family trait, Krisha was tested for the BRCA1 gene. Somebody who carries this gene has a much greater risk of developing breast or ovarian cancer. In fact, those with the gene have a 33-50 percent chance of developing cancer by their 50th birthday.

In 2008, Krisha, along with her mother and sisters, were tested for the BRCA1 gene. When the test results arrived six weeks later, their worst fears were realized. Her mother, two of her sisters and herself all carried the gene.

It was then that Krisha made the life-changing decision to have a double mastectomy. She would not let her family go through the pain and anxiety she went through as a child and was willing to undergo a very painful and personal surgery to ensure that.

### Catching Up With Krisha

It has now been more than a year since I had my double mastectomy and I can't express how happy I am in my decision. I now have less than a one percent chance of developing breast cancer and it is an amazing feeling knowing my family won't ever have to go through what my sisters and I did when we were young girls.

My recovery went far better than I could have imagined and that is a credit to my amazing family and doctors. Don't get me wrong, the pain was excruciating, but totally worth it in the long run. The pain of surgery will go away, but there is no guarantee breast cancer will.

Your life is worth enduring a short period of pain for the peace of mind you gain by knowing you have almost zero chance of developing breast cancer.

My advice to women is to get the BRCA1 blood test. Find out if you carry the gene. And don't wait. I was 27 when I had my surgery. My mother was 34 the first time she had cancer. My aunt was only 32. Every day I thought about that and knew I couldn't wait any longer. In short, I would recommend the test wholeheartedly and wouldn't hesitate to go through any of it again.

*If you would like more info on the BRCA1 test – or Krisha's journey – contact her via email, [Krisha@jrlawfirm.com](mailto:Krisha@jrlawfirm.com).*

**Check out the back page to see how we are helping you honor your loved ones!**

# Ask Jeff



Is misdiagnosis medical malpractice?

- Megan from Dallas, TX

If a doctor has misdiagnosed a disease, illness or condition – and that misdiagnosis harmed your health – you may very well have a medical malpractice case. A misdiagnosis can lead to the wrong treatment for your ailment as well as a delay of the right treatment – two medical mistakes that can prove to be extremely harmful and even deadly.

In some cases, a misdiagnosis may take place because of doctor negligence, misread medical tests, mixed up medical tests, or the failure to order the correct medical tests. Common misdiagnoses include cancer misdiagnosis, clogged artery misdiagnosis, heart attack misdiagnosis, heart disease misdiagnosis, tumor misdiagnosis, and infection misdiagnosis.

Visit [www.insiderslegalguide.com](http://www.insiderslegalguide.com) for video answers to your most frequently asked questions.

# Congrats Jeff!

Congratulations to Jeff on his 9th consecutive nomination as a Texas Super Lawyer

Please join us in congratulating Jeff for earning his 9th consecutive Texas Super Lawyer nomination. Jeff has earned this prestigious recognition every year since its inception in 2003.

The annual Texas Super Lawyers list is voted on by more than 70,000 Texas lawyers and comprises less than five percent of all lawyers in Texas.

*"It is humbling any time you receive recognition from your peers and I am thankful to all those who nominated me to this list. At the end of the day, I feel like this is a testament to the whole Rasansky Team and am grateful for all the hard work they put in."*

*I am blessed with a great team and amazing clients and know that without them, there wouldn't be one Super Lawyer award, much less nine." - Jeff*

## Support your Loved Ones

How you can be there for a loved one battling cancer

When a friend or loved one learns they have breast cancer, the spouse or partner around them tends to develop a sense of helplessness. First and foremost, you should be there to reassure the loved one that regardless of anything, they have your continued love. The support of the spouse or partner is an essential part of battling the disease. If possible, make sure to do each of these equally important things:

- **Gather information** - Compiling a list of treatments, doctors, and alternatives will be extremely helpful to your loved one in this serious time of need. Taking the stress of researching these things off of your loved one is an instrumental part of taking the correct initial steps.
- **Attend all medical appointments and treatments** - Writing down the dates that all of your loved one's medical appointments and treatments are scheduled to take place not only helps them remember during this chaotic time, but also helps ensure you will be there with them, if possible. Be attentive during each appointment and take notes for your loved one. The information given during this time can be overwhelming and too much for them to remember on their own.

- **Make arrangements for household duties to be taken care of** - During this time, your loved one has enough to worry about. The last thing they need to be stressed over is trying to make sure that their daily chores and errands get done.

- **Handle insurance and financial matters** - When your loved one has breast cancer, they don't want to constantly be dealing with insurance representatives and medical billing staff. Take over this responsibility for them and handle those, oftentimes, frustrating calls or meetings.

- **Help them connect** - Generally, finding a way to connect with others who are going through the same struggles as your loved one can be extremely encouraging to them. Find different organizations throughout your community which are dedicated to helping those with breast cancer.

Your continued support during this time of anxiety and stress will prove to be very beneficial to your loved one. Ensure you are there to build them up and provide moral support that only you can give them. All of these tips will help your loved one fight their way through breast cancer.

# EVEN ROCKSTARS CAN GET BREAST CANCER

**KISS' Peter Criss is living proof that women are not alone in the battle against breast cancer**

A few years ago, Founding member of the rock band KISS, Peter Criss, fought and won a battle with breast cancer. Criss discovered a lump in his left nipple near the end of the year 2007. After undergoing a lumpectomy in 2008 and a mastectomy one month later, Criss began speaking out on the relatively unknown disease hoping to raise awareness.

Criss stated, "It can happen to you, and when it does, if you don't deal with it right away, with your 'dude' and your metal and your tattoos, you'll go in the box and we'll see you."

Criss went public about the surgery hoping to inspire other men to get checked for breast cancer. He hopes his "heavy metal credentials" will help break some of the stereotypes about men and breast cancer. Criss assures the rest of his gender, "You are no more manly a guy than me -- I grew up in Brooklyn."

The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be nearly 2,000 individual cases of male breast cancer in 2009, and about 440 men will die because they will not get an early diagnosis.

Medline Plus, a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine, states that the disease usually strikes men of 60 years of age and up. The most common causes of male breast cancer are genetics, exposure to radiation and high estrogen levels. There is also an increased risk if the patient suffers from diseases such as cirrhosis and Klinefelter's syndrome.

Patients and their doctors should be on the lookout for symptoms of this rare but threatening disease. Symptoms include lumps, changes in the nipple, or discharge. Treat-



ment, if it is diagnosed early enough, can be successful. Treatment may involve a mastectomy operation, radiation, chemotherapy or hormone therapy.

The most important factor is early diagnosis. Your doctor is not ignorant as to the possibility of men and breast cancer. Therefore, a failure to diagnose breast cancer in men under some circumstances could be grounds for a medical malpractice lawsuit.

## According to Komen for the Cure, known factors that increase your risk of breast cancer include:

- A genetic condition such as Klinefelter's syndrome that is associated with high estrogen levels
- Family members (male or female) with breast cancer, especially with a BRCA2 mutation
- Chronic liver disorders, alcoholism and obesity
- Radiation exposure
- Getting older

*"I haven't had to use attorneys often, but I can tell you that the caring and support you and your firm offer is (in my experience) the exception not the rule. I believe it is as important to clients (in their time of need) than possibly the amount they win in court. I assume your newsletter strikes a cord with those in need to not only consider retaining Rasansky Law Firm but to refer you to others knowing they will be in good hands." - Dennis, Dallas, TX*

## Rasansky Law Firm

2525 McKinnon, Suite 625  
Dallas, Texas 75201

**Toll Free:** 1-800-Attorney

**Direct Line:** 214-651-6100

**Fax:** 214-651-6150

[www.jrlawfirm.com](http://www.jrlawfirm.com)

[www.texasinjuryattorney.com](http://www.texasinjuryattorney.com)

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## Remembering Our Loved Ones

Every year, millions of Americans are touched by breast cancer in some way or another. Whether it's a personal battle, supporting someone in their fight or losing a loved one, the effects of breast cancer reach far and wide.

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we would like to give you a chance to honor someone in your life who has had their life changed by this heartbreaking disease.

We invite you to visit [www.facebook.com/theRasanskyLawFirm](https://www.facebook.com/theRasanskyLawFirm) - and share the name and/or a memory of a loved one who has been affected by breast cancer. You can share a personal story or simply their name – whatever you are comfortable with. For each name shared, we will **donate one dollar in their honor to the National Breast Cancer Foundation**. (Up to \$500).

It is our hope that this will give you the opportunity to share your story with others who may be experiencing the same experience as well as a chance to honor your loved one while helping an excellent cause.

## Thank You!

We want to thank the following for their referrals in the past month.

- **Dawson and Sodd, LLP** [dawsonsodd.com](http://dawsonsodd.com)
- **North Dallas Chiropractic** [ndallaschiropractic.com](http://ndallaschiropractic.com)
- **Allmand Law** [allmandlaw.com](http://allmandlaw.com)
- **Rasansky Law Firm** – Terri Schepps

Thank you to all of the other friends, clients, family members, attorneys and other businesses for sending us your referrals!

Refer Your Loved Ones to Us Today, *Because You Care Enough to Help*