



### Funny Lawsuit

According to [www.realpolice.net/lawsuits.shtml](http://www.realpolice.net/lawsuits.shtml), "a surfer recently sued another surfer for 'taking his wave.' The case was ultimately dismissed because they were unable to put a price on 'pain and suffering' endured by watching someone ride the wave that was 'intended for you.'"

September 08

### Legal Olympics & Murphy Lawyer Games

The Beijing Olympics certainly kept us entertained last month. Still longing for a little competition? Simply email us your answers to the following trivia questions, and we will print the names of the winners along with the answers in the next newsletter!

- What is the title of one of the free books written by Mr. Murphy?

Hint: Visit our website, [www.murphyllawyer.com](http://www.murphyllawyer.com), for help.

- How many videos are currently on the Murphy & Associates website?

Hint: Though some videos appear on practice area pages, they all appear in thumbnails on the homepage.

- How long has Hannah been working at Murphy & Associates?

Hint: This newsletter may be of assistance to you for this question.

Send answers via email to [murphyllawfirm@bellsouth.net](mailto:murphyllawfirm@bellsouth.net).



The Olympics have come to an end, but Murphy & Associates is here to fuel your passion for competition!

SEPTEMBER  
ISSUE  
2008

# Murphy & Associates



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### Practice Areas

- Car Accidents
- Truck Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Pedestrian Collisions & Bicycle Accidents
- Serious Accidents & Catastrophic Injuries
- Wrongful Death & Fatal Accidents
- Traumatic Brain Injury & Nerve Damage
- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Workers' Compensation

### September Saturdays Celebration

Douglas County will host its sixth annual **September Saturdays Celebration** at the Douglas County Courthouse on three Saturdays this September. The celebration includes music, arts and crafts, movies, food from local restaurants, and hundreds of booths for interactive and educational experiences. **Free admission** and **free parking** are offered at the event, which takes place outdoors in the large parking lot of the courthouse. The event will benefit Communities in Schools, an organization devoted to helping children learn by connecting them to important and necessary community resources. Each Saturday has its own **theme** in which related events and entertainment will keep you busy, rain or shine, from 1:00pm-9:30p.m.:

#### September 13th: Heroes Day

This Saturday will be dedicated to local heroes, including Fire Department and EMS responders, members of all military branches, sheriffs, policemen, and teachers of the year. The heroes of the 9/11 tragedy of 2001 will be honored as well. Train rides, pony rides, and a play area will be available for children. **Flushed Away** will show on the giant outdoor movie screen at 8:00p.m., followed by fireworks to honor our heroes!

#### September 20th: Family Day

Intended to celebrate local families and the Douglas County "family" in general, this Saturday will host bike rides, pony rides, and local **American Idol** finalist Alexandria Lushington. The bike rides will take place in an interactive area where kids will learn about

safety and can register to win a bicycle. School choruses will perform throughout the afternoon, and **Shrek the Third** will play at 8:00p.m.

#### September 27th: Music Festival

Local and well-known Christian bands will play throughout the afternoon on the J93.3 stage. Among the performers are Douglasville's **Edenfield** (a five-member band) and **Bill Steely** (whose first solo album debuted in 2007), Carrollton's **Everthird**, and an Australian band now living in Atlanta, **Revive**. Families will also enjoy the music of **DecembeRadio** while children enjoy train rides and a car safety fair, followed by **Happy Feet** at 8:00p.m.



Fireworks conclude the evening on Heroes Day.

For more information about the event, visit [www.celebratedouglascounty.com](http://www.celebratedouglascounty.com) or contact Wes Tallon at (770)-920-7593 or via email at [wtallon@co.douglas.ga.us](mailto:wtallon@co.douglas.ga.us).

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Murphy & Associates,  
L.L.C.

## Murphy & Associates

## New Georgia Law

A new DUI law took effect in Georgia on July 1, 2008, making repeat offenders of DUI susceptible to felony (rather than simply misdemeanor) convictions. House Bill 336, passed this year by the Georgia House and Senate, states that drivers convicted of four counts of DUI within a ten-year period will receive a felony-level DUI charge. Even first-time offenders must undergo drug and alcohol evaluation under the new law. The Governor's Office of Highway Safety Director, Bob Dallas, says the new law is "regarded as lifesaving DUI law for Georgia." It "carries heavier fines, mandatory offender evaluations and jail time, stricter probation, and longer community service penalties." According to Dallas, the law is "landmark legislation."

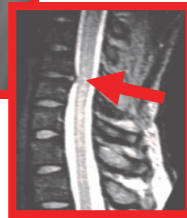
## Office Locations

We mentioned in last month's newsletter that we have an additional office location in Carrollton, GA, to meet with clients from the Carroll County area. New this month, Murphy & Associates is pleased to announce an office location in Atlanta in order to meet with clients from that area.

Atlanta Office Location:  
5825 Glenridge Dr.  
Atlanta, GA 30328



A herniated disc can often be identified in an x-ray of the spinal column.



## Injury Focus: Herniated Disc

The information you need to know to prevent, treat, and heal from a herniated disc

Many sufferers of neck and back pain suffer from a **herniated disc** (sometimes spelled "disk"). Often referred to as a "slipped disc" or "ruptured disc," the injury can even cause pain in the arms and legs, and some victims of herniated discs require surgery in order to heal completely. Though others may only require minor **treatment**, the pain caused from a herniated disc can, at times, be extremely difficult to bear.

What exactly is a herniated disc? In order to understand how a disc ruptures, one must first know what a spinal disc or intervertebral disc is itself. A spinal disc is often described as a soft, rubbery pad located in between two **vertebrae** in the spinal column. Though discs are referred to in such a way that makes them sound extremely flexible or spring-like, they decrease in water content and begin to harden as children and young adults grow

into adulthood. They also shrink with age, and the spaces between the vertebrae become smaller. When a part of the center nucleus breaks through the fibrous outer covering of a disc, the disc presses on a **spinal nerve**. This phenomenon causes a herniated disc, often resulting in noticeable pain due to the extreme sensitivity of nerves.

Common causes of herniated discs include lifting while bent at the waist, sudden pressure or **physical trauma**, smoking, and high body weight. If you feel that you may be suffering from a herniated disc, determine if you have any of the following symptoms: sciatica (shooting pain down the leg), weakness in one arm or leg, tingling or **numbness** in one arm or leg, and neck or

shoulder pain. If your pain is the result of a fall or sudden impact from a **car accident** or another type of accident, consult a physician as soon as possible. After proper diagnosis (which may involve simple examination, **x-rays**, or an MRI or CT scan), your doctor will recommend treatment options. Most victims of herniated discs require minor, non-surgical treatment like rest, ice, heat, careful exercises, or steroid injections. In extreme cases, surgery may be required for complete **healing**.

Our law firm handles car accident cases, worker's compensation cases, and other types of cases resulting from accidents that led to **spinal cord injuries**. If you were injured in an accident that was not your fault, call (770)-577-3020 to consult with us for free.

**"The disc presses on a spinal nerve, causing a herniated disc."**



## Douglasville Happenings

In addition to the September Saturdays event to be held this month, the celebratedouglas-couny.com website details other **upcoming events** for local residents to participate in and enjoy.

Downtown, "**Fall Concerts on the Plaza: It's Only Rock and Roll**" will bring rock and roll bands to the O'Neal Plaza Historic District. Presented by the Cultural Arts Council of

Douglasville and Douglas County, the concerts are free to the public, taking place on selected Saturday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. The event will include performances by **Colonel Bruce Hampton and the Quark Alliance** (September 13) and Australian rock musician **Geoff Achison** (September 27). The September 20th performance will be announced later.

For those interested in health and fitness, the Boundary Wa-

ters Recreational Complex will host the Atlanta **Walk from Obesity** on September 14th at 2:30pm, an event dedicated to the prevention and treatment of obesity as well as education and research on the subject. For a \$25 fee, anyone can participate in the **5k trail run**, 5k walk, or a one-mile walk/run. The Kids Dash and other games will keep your children active and entertained. For more information, call **Parks & Recreation** at (770)-489-2175.

## Firm Spotlight: Hannah Field

Hannah Field handles cases with professionalism, determination, and a hard-working-yet-laid-back attitude. Although she is very serious about helping clients and ensuring they receive the compensation they deserve, she is also one of the **funniest** people in the office.

When away from the office, Hannah takes criminal justice courses and helps plan **fundraisers** for breast cancer and *Full Throttle* magazine. She also enjoys listening to country music, **dancing**, shopping (you should see the size of her fun earrings!), walking

the runway in local **fashion shows**, and going camping or engaging in other outdoor activities.



Hannah, though serious about helping clients, is one of the funniest people around.

Always setting high goals for herself, she hopes to continue paralegal work after completing her bachelor's degree in **criminal justice**. She has been at Murphy & Associates handling personal injury and car accident cases since May of 2007. When asked to state her favorite thing about working at **Murphy & Associates**, she happily mentions the legal experience. We are certainly happy to have her as a part of our daily experience at the firm!

## WEBSITE VIDEOS: Resources & Testimonials

We are excited to announce a new addition to our [www.murphyllawyer.com](http://www.murphyllawyer.com) website: videos! Whether you need information about car accidents, serious accidents, workers' compensation, or simply want to know more about how and why James Murphy became an attorney, these videos will answer many of your questions. Although we are frequently updating our website with new blogs, articles, and important and helpful information via print, we will be adding videos as resources for you as well.

One video addition coming to the site in the future is that of client testimonials. If you would like to tell others about your experience with your case and satisfaction with the results, contact us at 770-577-3020. We look forward to working with you! As always, we thank you for your referrals!



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