

# EVAN M. OSTFELD, P.A.

### **NATIONWIDE REPRESENTATION** ADMITTED IN TX & FL

Personal Injury • Product Liability • Diminished Value • Workers' Compensation

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# Independence Day

I am not talking about the 1996 movie with Will Smith where aliens come to invade our planet. My favourite line is when Captain Steve Hiller knocks out the alien cold as it exits its spaceship and says "Welcome to Earth." It was a great flick if you have never seen it.



Seriously, we all know that July 4, 1776 is our nation's birthday. Although our country is by no means perfect, we don't look too shabby at 247 years old; hell I would not want to live anywhere else! Many people might not remember that the war took seven years to defeat the British in late 1782. Our great nation was founded on the sheer courage and will of the Continental Army, local militias, minutemen and volunteer troops, that took on the world's first super power. Had we failed, our citizens might be bowing to King Charles's feet and the event would simply be a footnote in history as the war that crushed the colonies. I'm sure that King George III is still rolling over in his grave as to what went wrong.

In a sense our patriots were like Mighty Mouse®. Just think of him wearing a white and blue outfit with 13 stars and a red cape. From my childhood I remember him being portrayed as living among the stars, hurtling down from the heavens to save the day.

While our descendants fought the "evil" British Empire, Mighty Mouse fought against alien cats, including Julius "Pinhead" Schlabotka, Bad Bill Bunion, Oil Can Harry and his henchman Swifty.



What does this have to do with The Law Offices of Evan M. Ostfeld? For nearly 30 years, my firm has been representing the injured in workers' compensation, personal injury and defective product matters. In fact, we've expanded our practice outside of the original colonies to all 50 states and territories. Instead of fighting Mighty Mouse's foes to save a damsel in distress, we seek justice for our clients against Corporate America and their Big Bad Insurance Companies who try to shirk their responsibilities to the public.

While this superhero uses strength, x-ray vision and psychokinesis, we exercise our firm's powers of research, argument, persuasion and persistence. In fact, his song motivates us to work even harder on a client's behalf "Mister Trouble never hangs around When he hears this mighty sound "Here I come to save the day!" That means that Mighty Mouse is on the way! Yes sir, when there is a wrong to right Mighty Mouse will join the fight."

Our office handles these claims on a contingency basis. That means there are no fees or costs unless there is a recovery or court award. Of course, feel free to tell us about any of your other legal concerns. If we cannot help, The Referral King® will gladly try to refer you to someone who may assist thee. Call us today at (844) 411-KING. We are here to help!

Godspeed,



# What is Diminished Value?

Diminished Value is the reduction in value of a vehicle (car, truck, motorcycle, RV or boat) that occurs as a result of an accident. Even after being fixed, generally it is now worth a lot less than a similar vehicle that has never been damaged. That's because potential buyers are likely to be concerned about the vehicle's safety, reliability, and overall condition, which leads to a lower resale value. This information can be found in a vehicle's history like a CARFAX report.

There are several factors that can affect the amount of a claim, including the original cost of the vehicle, severity of the accident, its age and condition, and the type of damage sustained. A newer vehicle, a luxury automobile, truck, motorcycle, RV and or boat that sustains significant damage is much more likely to experience a higher diminished value than an older and or less expensive one that has sustained only cosmetic issues.

If one is involved in an accident that was not their fault, and the vehicle sustains damage, you may be entitled to receive financial compensation. Why? Simple, as this compensation is intended to cover the difference in value lost between your vehicle before and after the accident. It's like getting additional cash in your pocket, whether or not there were any injuries from the crash itself.

Evidence needs to be provided of the vehicle's value before and after the crash. An appraisal report must therefore be generated which will compare the value of similar vehicles that have not been involved in an accident. Other required documentation includes the police report, proof of the final repairs, photographs of the damage, and the insurance claim numbers from both your company and that of the at fault person. Do note that if you leased it, the claim belongs to the vehicle's owner, not you.



Of course, someone could try to do all of the work themselves. That being said the insurance company will not take you seriously without the help of an attorney. We have experience handling thousands of these claims with great success.

Our law firm can help navigate the process and negotiate with the insurance company to try and ensure fair compensation. These cases are taken on a contingency basis; there are no fees or costs unless there is a settlement.

If you've been in an accident and think you may qualify, don't hesitate to contact us today at (866) I SUE YOU (478-3968). The consultation is always free!



In the age of streaming, the way we watch television has undergone a dramatic transformation. Gone are the days when cable TV reigned supreme as the sole source of entertainment. With the rise of streaming platforms, a new era has dawned, presenting the burning question: Is it time to cut the cord on cable?

One of the most significant advancements in streaming is the integration of live TV options. The limitations of on-demand content have disappeared; now, these services provide access to live broadcasts, news channels, original programming and even sports events. Providers like Paramount+®, Disney+®, YouTube TV®, and Netflix® offer comprehensive packages that include a mix of live TV and on-demand content, giving viewers the best of both worlds.

When it comes to pricing, cable TV monthly fees can be pricey, burdening consumers with bundled packages that include channels they never heard of. In contrast, streaming services offer various pricing tiers and customization options that cater to individual preferences. For instance Netflix has a plan starting at only \$9.99 per month and YouTube which is about \$65.00. Some services also provide access to live TV, on-demand content, and their entire streaming library. Comparatively, the average cable TV bill can range from \$100 to \$200 per month, therefore making streaming a potentially more affordable alternative.

These platforms also offer a range of features that enhance the viewing experience. Alongside live TV, they often provide cloud DVR services, multiple screens for viewing sports and flexibility so you can watch content on many devices.

Ultimately, whether to cut the cord rests on your family's own unique circumstances and needs. Streaming options have evolved significantly, offering a lot of choices, cost-effective plans, and a wealth of other features. To make your decision, consider the advantages and potential cost savings along with the flexibility and convenience that it provides.



## STUFFED CABBAGE ROLLS

This delightful stuffed cabbage roll recipe features tender cabbage leaves generously filled with a savory beef mixture. To elevate the flavours, these rolls are complemented by a delectable homemade sauce that is both simple and delicious.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 2/3 cup water
- 1/3 cup uncooked white rice
- 8 cabbage leaves
- 1 lb lean ground beef
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 1 (10.5 oz) tomato soup
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground black pepper

### DIRECTIONS

- 1. Boil rice in a saucepan. Let simmer until tender, about 20 minutes.
- 2. Bring a saucepan of lightly salted water to a boil. Add cabbage leaves and cook for 2 to 4 minutes or until softened; drain.
- 3. Combine beef, 1 cup of cooked rice, onion, egg, 2 tablespoons of tomato soup, salt, and pepper in a large bowl; mix thoroughly.
- 4. Spoon 2 tbsp of beef mixture onto each cabbage leaf; roll ends
- 5. Place rolls in a skillet over medium heat; pour remaining soup on top. Cover and bring to a boil; simmer for about 40 minutes, stirring and basting with the liquid often.

# REFERRALS WELCOME!

Thanks for allowing us to represent you. Hopefully, we've earned your trust for future referrals of friends and family nationwide. We are only a call, text or email away!

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# How Artificial Intelligence is Shaping Our Future

Artificial Intelligence better known as A.I. is revolutionizing our world, driving remarkable advancements and shaping our future in ways that we never thought possible. With cutting-edge technologies and groundbreaking innovations, It is transforming industries and redefining how we live, work, and interact.

The financial sector, e-commerce companies, and even the healthcare industry have all embraced this field to enhance efficiency and customer experience. PayPal now utilizes Al algorithms to find and prevent fraudulent transactions, safeguarding the interests of millions of users. In the world of e-commerce, Amazon has employed AI systems to analyze user behaviour and preferences, transforming the way we shop online. In the medical field, this technology now plays a pivotal role in diagnosis and treatment. IBM's Watson, for instance, has made significant strides in research and diagnosis by analyzing massive volumes of medical data; it can even help formulate an optimal fantasy football lineup!

Yet one of the most notable developments making waves is self-driving cars, led by companies such as Tesla, Waymo, and Cruise. They are pioneering the development of autonomous vehicles, using algorithms to analyze vast amounts of data from sensors and cameras to navigate and make real-time decisions on the road.

Additionally complex language models such as ChatGPT, are transforming our interactions with technology. Using voice assistants like Amazon's Alexa, Apple's Siri, and Google Assistant they can now employ natural language processing with their machine learning algorithms to comprehend and address user commands, streamlining daily tasks for enhanced convenience and efficiency.

While this AI phenomenon brings tremendous potential, it also raises important considerations around ethics, privacy, safety and inclusivity. We definitely do not want a Skynet situation like in the sci-fi movie Terminator where the artificial general superintelligence system became self-aware and tried to destroy the human race!

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# **Important Updates on AFFF Firefoam**

## **PROTECTING THE RIGHTS** OF OUR BRAVE FIREMEN

Aqueous film forming foam or AFFF for short, was commercially used beginning in the early 1970s. It is used to suppress fires involving flammable liquids, by forming a barrier between the air and vapors, effectively suffocating them. Firefighters use this foam in action and during training. Until the mid-1990s, 3M was the primary manufacturer. Companies began phasing it out in the early 2000s, but the replacement foam has similar issues.

### What are the Dangers?

AFFF contains toxic chemicals called PFAS, PFOS, and PFOA. Not only are they dangerous to the environment, but have been strongly linked to cancers. Military and civilian firefighters who are exposed to these foams over time have significantly increased risks. The same may be true for non-fire fighters if they handled and or disposed of it. The more exposure one has to these toxic chemicals, the greater likelihood that there condition was caused by this defective product. Even minimal direct exposure on a semi-regular basis can cause harm!

The most highly linked cases include cancers of the bladder, kidney, liver, pancreas, prostate, testicles along with causing thyroid disease and ulcerative colitis. That being said, our law firm is accepting cases for breast, colorectal and endometrial cancers along with leukemia and non-hodgkin's lymphoma.

The time to make a claim is now! In fact, last month two tentative multibillion dollar settlements have been reached by some of the firefoam manufacturers to resolve claims of contaminated public water systems.

### Why is that important?

It is believed that the some defendants will now try to resolve the approximate 5,000 pending claims for people that were exposed to AFFF and were made sick or passed away from its use.

Call our office today for a no-obligation evaluation. We accept these cases nationwide and on a contingency basis. There are no upfront costs and costs. We'll even obtain your medical records. Mind you that the litigation is not against your employer but rather

versus the chemical companies who created this deadly product. Let us and our co-counsel team seek justice for your injuries. We can be reached at (866) I SUE YOU (478-3968)