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JUNE 2014 BULLETIN

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES: DRIVING GM CAR SUBJECT TO RECALL? SUGGEST YOU TAKE IN AND GET IT FIXED WITHOUT DELAY!

IGNITION CAN SHUT OFF, CAUSE ACCIDENT AND STOP AIRBAG FROM DEPLOYING

If you're driving a GM car and it is subject to a recall, or you have reason to believe it has the ignition switch problem, get it fixed right away. The vehicles can unexpectedly shut off, causing an accident.

Not only that, but if they shut off, the power steering and anti-lock brakes don't work, and the airbags won't deploy. Serious problems when you're trying to drive a car, and it's a shame that it wasn't brought to light in a timely manner.

A number of people have died because of it, and who knows how many people have been injured. If it were not for plaintiff personal injury lawyers, this problem would likely have never have been revealed. In the Melton case, the plaintiffs' 29 year old daughter Brooke died when her 2006 Chevy Cobalt went out of control. GM treated it as a "loss of control" case. GM tried to say she should have been able to control the car. I guess you should be able to just "pull over" when your car is going 60 miles an hour and suddenly shuts off, right?

The plaintiffs' lawyer got a court to order the production of documents. The documents proved that GM knew in 2004 that the engine stalled on test tracks. Cars inadvertently turned off on test drivers. GM understood the defect. All was known, but it's alleged that GM made a business decision not to fix the problem at that time.

Did your power go off in your vehicle when you were driving? Did it cause an accident? Or if there was an accident, did the airbag not deploy? Was anyone hurt? If so, contact our office. We are in contact with plaintiff's attorneys that are handling these cases and we can help you determine if you have a viable case. If you are driving one of these affected cars, by all means get it fixed now. ■

**NOTICE: "Energy Future Holding"
bankruptcy notices are not from us –**

There is no need to call our office about them! If you received a bankruptcy court notice asking you to file a "proof of claim," it is probably from the Energy Future Holding ("EFH") chapter 11 case. EFH owns TXU Energy. If you had residential electricity service through TXU, you probably don't have to do anything, the notices are for "informational purposes only." Your service should continue as usual, and according to the company, the Bankruptcy Court authorized EFH to honor any obligations to customers "in the ordinary course of business" such as deposits. Only if you have some dispute or claim against TXU that preceded the bankruptcy filing on April 29, would a customer need to file a Proof of Claim. ■



Hill Country Deer Taking it Easy

Mr. Black attended a family reunion in the Hill Country in May. There are "explosive" videos at www.youtube.com/user/JThomasBlackPC

Quotes:

Success seems to be connected to action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit. - Conrad Hilton

Live your life and forget your age. -Anonymous

Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone. - Pablo Picasso

Special This Month:

TEN GREAT RULES FOR RUINING YOUR LIFE by Wayne Huff, Texas Board Certified

Criminal Defense lawyer, Boerne, Texas.

(contributed by Attorney David B. Black, Vanderpool, Texas)

HOLY TRINITY: guaranteed to make your life miserable:

1. Break the law (Corollary: not knowing the law is nearly as good) Example: when you can have a handgun.

2. Hang out with the wrong people (Corollary: your friends can get you in more trouble in five seconds than your enemies can in a lifetime) Example: Law of Parties-they're all just as guilty.

3. Get yourself addicted to something (Corollary: dope is guaranteed to introduce you early and often to the criminal justice system) Example: even first time busts involve lawyer fees, court fees, and, if you're lucky, probation fees. Yeah, alcohol is nearly as good.

YES YOU CAN MAKE IT WORSE:

4. Call attention to yourself (Corollary: cops do the easy ones first and usually more than once) Example: Peel out from stop lights in that jacked-up 350 pickup with the loud pipes, throw some litter out the window, crank up that sound system till the bass can be heard from Bumdoodlers all the way down to the Bear Moon Bakery.

5. Violate some minor traffic law (Corollary: hardly anyone can drive more than a block without violating some traffic law, so when you follow rule four the police will have a great reason to pull you over) Example: you don't really need to worry about an expired inspection or registration sticker.

6. Offend the police officer (Corollary: cops just love to get answers like "what's it to you dude," "Uh-huh," or "Yeah," so strike the words "sir" or "ma'am" from your vocabulary, and make sure to ask if they've run out of donuts or real criminals to chase.)

7. Act like the police never heard of technology (Corollary: you mean that camera records everything I say or do after the red lights come on) Example: make sure that your surly attitude (see Rule 6) is complemented by being shirtless and as unkempt as possible, a torso full of tatoos is a big hit too.

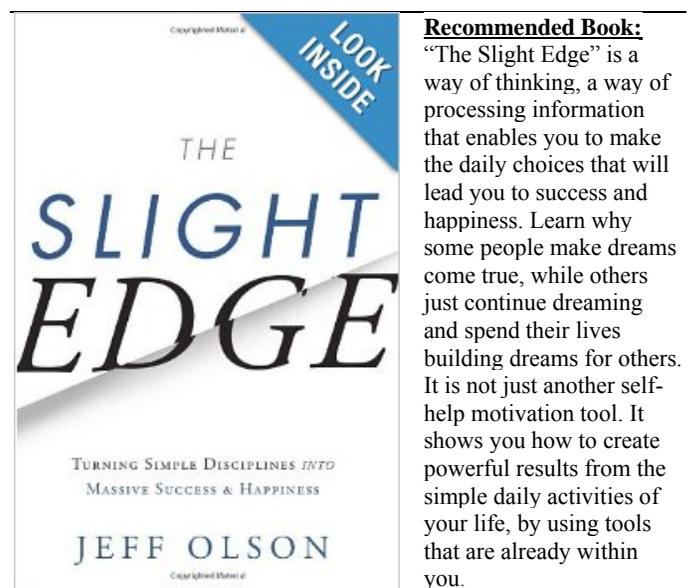
8. Waive all of your rights (Corollary: Go ahead and search my car officer, I have absolutely nothing to hide) Example: bet you forgot about that open container of Everclear you left under the seat, or how inconsiderate of your boyfriend not to tell you he was leaving that half-smoked joint in the glove compartment.

9. Try to lie your way out of it (Corollary: The Bible verse about the truth setting you free does not work all that well in the criminal justice system) Example: I swear officer I didn't steal that Ipod I just kept an eye out while Janey did. See Rule 2. **(Corollary 2:** it's legal when the police lie to you,

but it looks really bad when you lie to them, especially on video.) So how do I avoid this: See Number 8 above.

10. Ignore your lawyer (Corollary: what do they know, they've never been to jail) Example: Your lawyer has advised you that by virtue of you having followed rules 1-9 your case is not triable. But wait, your cellmate, "Three strikes" Jones, tells you that based on his long experience your lawyer is an idiot for wanting you to take that probation offer. It does, after all sound plausible, since old "Three strikes" has been in Court more than a whole lot of lawyers.

11. Repeat 1-10 (Corollary: I couldn't get that unlucky again) Example: You're not the kind that learns from his mistakes, so you not only continue to follow the above rules you return to the same town to do it. The fact that every law enforcement officer, judge and prosecutor in the county knows your face, name, driver's license number and DNA profile will never deter you." ■



Thank you for your referrals! We accept cases in the following areas-

Bankruptcy.

Debt Collection Defense.

Debt Collector Harassment.

I.R.S. Collection Defense.

Stop Foreclosure and Repossession.

Student Loan Help.

ARE YOU IN CHAPTER 13 NOW?

Always keep the law office updated with your current address, telephone numbers, and email address. We may need to reach you quickly. You can check on the status of your Trustee payments, how much you still owe on your case, etc., by going to www.ndc.org to set up your user ID and password.

Lose job or overtime? Expenses increase? Want to give up property to lower payments? Call the office for a Motion to Modify worksheet. Complete it and email it or fax it to the office at 713-772-5058. We'll review it and contact you if a change to your plan is possible.

J. Thomas Black was licensed as an attorney in Texas by the Texas Supreme Court in May, 1982. Mr. Black is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

We are a federally designated Debt Relief Agency under the United States Bankruptcy Laws. We help people find answers to their debt and credit problems, including, when necessary, helping them file bankruptcy under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.