

SDSBS is currently handling cases involving defective Takata airbags

Consumers are urged to check if their vehicle has been recalled.

Over 30 million vehicles in the United States have been recalled to replace frontal airbags made by Japanese parts supplier Takata. The airbags in question were installed by Takata in vehicles from over 50 different auto, truck, and motorcycle manufacturers, and cover model years 2002 through 2014. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has charged that the airbags have been linked to at least eight deaths and hundreds of injuries. Its investigation focuses on the airbag's inflator, a metal cartridge loaded with a propellant that, in a crash, might explode with enough force to drive shards of metal into the driver or passengers in the vehicle. Manufacturing processes, design flaws, and poor quality control may also contribute to the part failure. Vehicles operated in regions with high heat and humidity appear to be at greater risk. NHTSA has additional information on its website at www.NHTSA.gov, including a VIN-Lookup Tool which enables you to find out if your vehicle is one of those at risk.

SDSBS is currently handling these cases and is seeking contact with vehicle owners who may be at risk for death or injury caused by these airbags, or who have questions regarding the case. ♦

Contact attorney **Brian Denney**
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or by telephone at **(800) 780-8607**.

Additional information is also available on our website,
www.SearcyLaw.com

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THAT WILL BE ANSWERED
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Jack Hill comments on the inspiration and rewards of practicing law.

South Florida Legal Guide's mid-year 2015 edition asked several attorneys who have been featured in their publication for years, and who also have been selected as *SFLG's* "Top Lawyers of 2016," to comment on what inspired them to be a lawyer, what interesting cases they have worked on, and what they most enjoy about their practice. SDSBS attorney Jack Hill was included in *SFLG's* selection. He provided these comments. "As a plaintiff's trial lawyer, I am often entrusted with handling the most significant event in a client's life. In the case of a death or catastrophic injury, the event giving rise to the litigation is one of the most, if not the most, difficult times in a client's life. Oftentimes, a client's financial future and survival are at stake. To be entrusted with that degree of responsibility is humbling. The most rewarding aspect of my practice occurs when a successful outcome is achieved, either by settlement or verdict, and a client is able to begin trying to put his life back together with the financial resources to do so. I am fortunate to have a fairly diverse plaintiff's injury practice. Given the uniqueness of every case, it is hard to single out the most interesting one. However, one that stands out in my mind involved the wrongful death of a foreign national who was originally from Honduras. In addition to leaving behind a young son, the decedent also had a common law wife still living in Honduras. Although Florida no longer recognizes common law marriages, it does respect them from jurisdictions that do. As a result, litigation was brought in Honduras that successfully resulted in a postmortem judicial recognition of the clients' common law marriage under Honduran law. The wrongful death case resolved shortly thereafter." ♦

*"I consider trial by jury
as the only anchor ever yet
imagined by man,
by which a government
can be held to the principles
of its constitution."*

- - Thomas Jefferson, 1788