What is product liability?

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New Jersey law allows a person to receive monetary compensation for injuries caused by a defective product. The area of law which covers such claims is known as product liability. The following provides answers to some common questions regarding this area of the law.

What is product liability?

Product liability is an area of the law which addresses injuries to either persons or property as a result of defective products.

What does defective mean?

A product can be defective for any one of three reasons. A product may contain a manufacturing defect. A manufacturing defect occurs when a product is not assembled or built correctly. Another type of defect is a design defect. Design defects are present when the dangers posed by the product are so great as to outweigh the product's usefulness. In most cases, it is necessary to establish that these dangers can be eliminated through the use of an alternative design. A third type of defect is the warning defect. A product may be defective because it fails to contain adequate warnings informing users of the products hidden and not-so-hidden dangers.

Are all products which injure people defective?

Not all products which cause injury are defective. We all recognize that products can be intentionally misused. Additionally, some products by their very nature must present hazards. For example, a knife with a dull edge will not cut a person, but remember, it certainly will not cut food!

How do I find out if I am a victim of a defective product?

First, keep the product! Do not repair, alter or in any way change the product. Try to keep it in the same condition it was in at the time of the accident. Also try to hold on to any materials that came with the product. This includes booklets or instructions as well as the packaging.

Next, contact our office. Our experienced attorneys and, when necessary, consulting experts will evaluate the product which caused your injury. We can then advise you of your legal rights and the potential remedies available to compensate you for your injury.