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The Law Offices of Howard L. Nations

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Legal

Special Advertising Section

Known for Personal Injury and Business Litigation Successes, Famed Houston Lawyer Turns Attention to the Pharmaceutical Industry

Courtroom animations and computer-generated graphics are a routine, often indispensable, part of modern trials. This was not so in 1988 when a 16-year-old boy suffered a paralyzing stroke on a roller coaster and his family turned to Texas lawyer Howard L. Nations for help. Nations hired biomechanical, engineering and medical experts who solved the medical mystery and determined that the teenager's injuries resulted when the G forces created by the coaster jerked his neck violently, rupturing an artery. In order to explain this complex mechanical/medical theory to a jury, Nations created a computer reenactment of the roller coaster, demonstrating the G forces destructive effects on the young man's neck, and convinced the court and jury that the defective design of the roller coaster was the cause of the stroke. This was the first computer-generated animation ever introduced into evidence in American jurisprudence, and the case resulted in a plaintiff's verdict and a subsequent settlement that is providing lifetime support for the injured young man.

"As a result of that case, the amusement park acted responsibly and changed the design of the seats in the coaster to reduce the effects of G forces and create a much safer ride," Nations explains.

For over 40 years, Nations has been at the forefront of civil litigation, successfully representing consumers in a wide range of business, product liability and personal injury cases. Board-certified in both civil and personal injury litigation, he is now heavily focused on mass tort pharmaceutical cases.

The Law Offices of Howard L. Nations actively prosecutes cases in business, personal injury and complex, multidistrict mass tort litigation (MDL). Nations was recently lead counsel in the Eastern District of New York in an MDL case involving an atypical antipsychotic drug and is currently prosecuting cases against the manufacturer of Seroquel®, another atypical antipsychotic that under some circumstances can lead to the development of diabetes.

In June 2008, Nations expects to go to trial in Toledo, Ohio, in a multidistrict litigation case against Johnson & Johnson, based on excessive estrogen delivery by the Ortho Evra® birth control patch.

"As a result of this birth control patch, many young women are suffering from deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary emboli, strokes, heart attacks and death," Nations says.



Howard L. Nations

The Nations Law Firm is also pursuing mass tort actions against the manufacturers of gadolinium, a contrast dye used in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). In patients with renal insufficiency, gadolinium can cause nephrogenic systemic fibrosis, a potentially fatal skin and kidney disorder.

Such complex cases require a unique combination of legal, technical and scientific expertise. The Law Offices of Howard L. Nations combines the talents of trial lawyers, physicians and high-tech computer specialists who work as a team to best represent the interests of the firm's multifaceted client base, which is now located in all 50 states.

Based in Houston, The Law Offices of Howard L. Nations also has locations in New York, Los Angeles and Acapulco, Mexico. Howard Nations's achievements are acknowledged annually in *Who's Who in the World*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Law* and *Who's Who in Finance and Industry*.

"My primary motivation is to make positive changes in the lives of my clients," Nations says. "The nature of our cases also allows us to aid in another major goal of the plaintiff's bar, to make our country safer for American citizens and consumers."

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