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Legal Briefs

C&B Litigator, Fred Coover, Esq. recently completed a course titled, "Effective Use of Mediation, Arbitration and Other Dispute Resolution Procedures in Commercial and Construction Litigation." The course was taught by a panel of recognized industry experts.

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Patty Coffman joins C&B as Receptionist.

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Mid-Atlantic AAA reports the average price of gas in Maryland for regular, self-serve is \$3.119 per gallon.

SE HABLA ESPANOL?

We do! [COOVER & BARR, LLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW](#) is proud to announce that through valued staff, we are now fluent in Spanish. We have long realized the growth and prominence of the Hispanic community and our need to communicate effectively in Spanish. Please anticipate that in the future, our written Firm materials will be offered in Spanish and English. Please read on:

WE WELCOME GABRIEL A. RIVEROS, ESQUIRE!

[COOVER & BARR, LLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW](#) is pleased to announce that Gabriel A. Riveros has joined our practice.

"Personal Injury Law was the main reason I decided to become a lawyer. One of my closest friends was in a serious auto accident that resulted in life-threatening injuries. His car was struck at an intersection by a truck that ran a red light. Despite three failed back surgeries and leg surgery, he never recovered. His daily life drastically changed from that of a rising tennis pro to the daily struggle of just getting out of bed, battling with the physical and psychological effects of his sufferings. Witnessing what he had to endure because of someone else's negligence and observing how the insurance company's mission was to deny him just compensation are just two of the reasons I answered the calling to advocate on behalf of injury victims."

Gabriel A. Riveros, Esquire

Gabriel's life experiences include that of being a veteran of the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division, where he developed the necessary discipline, fortitude and tenacity it takes to be an advocate for injury victims in the minefield of negotiating with insurance companies. As a former Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, Gabe attained real world, first-hand knowledge of how accidents happen and what they can do to people who are victimized by negligence. As a former insurance defense trial lawyer, he knows the way of the insurance industry, whose main purpose is to pay out as little money as it can get away with and maximize corporate profits, often at the expense of injury victims. Gabriel is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo where he attained his Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He went on to attain his law degree from the University of Miami School of Law. As a law student, Gabriel frequently competed in mock trial competitions to sharpen his trial skills and received high marks during local and state wide competitions. Gabriel also authored articles in the areas of civil litigation and medical malpractice. Gabe resides with his wife Mandala, daughter Isabella, and step-son, Aidan, in Pasadena, Maryland. He is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association, Maryland Trial Lawyer's Association, Maryland Hispanic Bar Association and Howard County Bar Association.

LETTERS OF INTENT: ARE THEY BINDING AND ENFORCEABLE? ONE MARYLAND COURT SAID YES! by Gabriel A. Riveros, Esq.

You may be shocked as we were to learn that a Maryland court recently held a seller bound to an enforceable contract by merely signing a letter of intent and by signing (but not delivering) a Contract of Sale. The seller in that case had no agent whereas the buyers had an agent and presented the seller with a handwritten letter of intent that she signed and returned. The buyers' agent also sent the seller a contract of sale which she signed, but had not returned the contract because she had changed her mind and wanted to take the property off the market. The buyers filed a lawsuit against the seller for specific enforcement and the trial court actually held that the signed letter of

intent and the signed, but unreturned contract of sale was a binding and enforceable contract! Although the seller was successful on appeal, this does not minimize the risks created and legal drama one can be forced to endure through costly litigation when signing letters of intent that are improperly written, the deal doesn't go through and someone feels they have been wronged. Can you afford the risk? Contact [COOVER & BARR, LLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW](#) for experienced counsel and full protection of your legal rights.

PERSONAL INJURY ASSISTANCE by Richard A. Mlynek, Esq.

All too often we hear, *"I was in a car wreck three days ago and I didn't think I was hurt, but I'm hurting now. Is it too late to make the responsible party pay for my injuries?"*

Answer: No, its not too late but don't wait too long to make a claim!!

Many people sustain injuries in moderate or low impact automobile accidents. There are many reasons you might not believe you are hurt immediately following an accident, including: adrenaline, excitement, denial, concern for other passengers, or just a delayed response by the body. Nevertheless, you wake up the next day, or two days later, with pain in your neck or back or other body parts. You may have other symptoms, including numbness or tingling in arms, hands, legs or feet.

These symptoms could signal a serious bodily injury. **Don't attempt to "tough it out."** Call your doctor, go to a walk-in clinic or the hospital emergency room right away. The longer you wait to get medical attention, the harder it is to get the responsible party to pay full value for your accident-related injuries.

Claims adjusters and insurance defense attorneys are notorious for using a person's reluctance to go to the doctor against them.

The experienced personal injury attorneys at [COOVER & BARR, LLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW](#) include former claims adjusters and former insurance defense attorneys. **We know how to deal effectively with the "other side" and win a maximum recovery for our injured clients.** So don't wait to get to a doctor and don't hesitate to call [COOVER & BARR, LLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW](#) to assist you with your personal injury claim!

BOOM IN HISPANIC HOMEBUYING

According to a recent article in USA TODAY, authored by Haya El Nasser, more hispanics are purchasing homes than ever. In fact, hispanic homebuyers were the top purchasers of homes in 2005. The analysis of deeds and county assessment records show that buyers with names such as Garcia and Rodriguez have risen dramatically since the year 2000, out purchasing buyers with names such as Davis and Miller. Smith and Johnson remain the two most popular buyer names, but in 2005, four Hispanic names were in the top 10, compared with two in 2000.

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