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ATV Injury Attorney Terry Bryant Reminds of Possible Yamaha Rhino ATV Dangers

Federal safety regulators investigate 30 deaths linked to ATV accidents

HOUSTON, Texas (Jan. 22, 2009)—Houston-based injury attorney and former judge Terry Bryant has seen firsthand the life-changing catastrophes resulting from preventable accidents. One company associated with these types of accidents is Yamaha Motor Company, which manufactures the popular “Rhino” All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)[™]. This ATV has been associated with serious and life-threatening risks to both its drivers and passengers because of defects in its design. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, more than 200 lawsuits in state and federal courts are currently filed against Yamaha, alleging that the Rhino is prone to rollover accidents.

“When people purchase these ATVs the last thing they think about are the potential injuries or even deaths related to the vehicles,” ATV injury lawyer Terry Bryant said. “The alleged design flaws in the Yamaha Rhino ATV have been linked to many rollover accidents, and I want to assist those who have been affected by these devastating ATV accidents and get them the help they deserve.”

Rhino ATV injuries can be so severe they have required amputation of affected limbs. Some victims have been caught under the chassis in Rhino rollover accidents and died. In fact, according to *Fox News*, federal safety regulators are investigating reports of 30 deaths linked to the Yamaha Rhino, including those of two young girls.

Design Flaws May Be to Blame

The Rhino ATV is also known as a side-by-side, because its two seats are next to one another. Yamaha recently included an updated on-product warning label and announced that it would make design changes to the Rhino, which includes adding doors and additional passenger handholds to any 2004 to 2007 Rhino free of charge at a certified dealership.

“Our firm applauds these measures, but unfortunately they do little for people who have already suffered life-changing injuries,” Bryant said.

Even turns made on flat surfaces can result in the Rhino ATV rolling over, as stated in Yamaha’s own warning label for the Rhino ATV. Furthermore, due to the vehicle not having any doors, arms and legs can fall outside of the ATV as it rolls over, crushing them—even when the driver and passenger are wearing seat belts. The Consumer Product Safety Commission

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estimates that more than 2 million ATV injuries and almost 9,000 ATV-related deaths have been reported between 1982 and 2007, according to its *2007 Annual Report of ATV-Related Deaths and Injuries*.

About Terry Bryant

Terry Bryant's commitment to providing legal assistance for injured persons began in 1985 when he opened his firm as the sole practitioner. Twenty years later, he still practices in the same location. His focus continues to be helping people with severe injuries get the legal representation they desire. He is board certified as a Personal Injury Trial Lawyer by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. The firm employs an exceptional litigation team and support staff with combined experience exceeding 70 years in personal injury law. The members of the firm work as a team to provide clients with the best possible legal representation. For more information, visit www.TerryBryant.com or call (713) 973-8888 or (800) 444-5000.

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