

PHSM



Experienced Trial Attorneys Who Will Fight for You

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**PHSM**

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Trucking Litigation

**W. Mullins McLeod Jr.**

Railroad Litigation

**Joseph C. Wilson IV**

Commercial Litigation

Professional

Responsibility

**James G. Kennedy**

Product Liability

**James D. Gandy III**

Product Liability

**David Yarborough Jr.**

Construction Litigation

Product Liability

**George L. Inabinet Jr.**

Product Liability

Collection Litigation

**William P. Early**

Medical Malpractice

**Mission Statement**

It is our goal to provide superior legal services to each client in a professional and efficient manner. Through our trial experience, extensive legal knowledge, and association with experts in the field, we are able to provide concise solutions to complex problems.

**PHSM—Serving the Best Interests of Our Clients**

Obtaining an experienced lawyer who can best serve your needs is the most important step to any litigation.

PHSM is an ethical and experienced law firm representing people just like you: individuals, consumers and small-business owners in need of legal counseling.

As a client or former client of PHSM, we thank you for your trust in our firm and we look forward to helping you in the future.

**Please contact us toll free at  
(866) 721-5826.**

**Injured Railroad Workers—FELA**

In addition to handling train accident personal injury claims and wrongful death claims, we represent railroad workers in pursuing compensation for injuries under the Federal Employment Liability Act (FELA). At Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC, W. Mullins McLeod Jr. pursues toxic chemical exposure litigation and is on the steering committee for the Graniteville class action suit for railroad-related chemical spills.

Every ninety minutes there is a train/car collision somewhere in America. W. Mullins McLeod Jr. has

represented over 50 victims of train collisions, in addition to over 100 victims of the two largest railroad chemical spills in Hartsville and Graniteville, South Carolina. For quality experienced representation, contact our Charleston, South Carolina, railroad accident and FELA attorneys for a free initial consultation.



W. Mullins McLeod Jr.

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### Punitive Damages

In a civil case, there are two main types of damages that the court could award: compensatory and punitive. Compensatory damages are awarded to compensate the Plaintiff for the costs that they have incurred due to the injury. These may include things like medical expenses, lost wages, and pain and suffering. The main purpose of punitive damages, on the other hand, is not to benefit the Plaintiff. They are awarded to punish the Defendant and discourage them and others from participating in that kind of activity. Because punitive damages compensate the Plaintiff in excess of their provable injuries, they are only awarded in special cases, usually tort law, where the defendant's acts were intentional, willful, wanton or malicious.

### Nursing Home Law

An area of nursing home law that is seeing its fair share of litigation is the fight against pressure ulcers, more commonly called "bedsores." These ulcers are most commonly seen in patients that are confined to their beds, requiring the nursing homes to take special precautions to prevent these painful and sometimes deadly sores. When negligently attended to for long durations, the pressure cuts off the blood circulation and causes the skin to break down, and these are no normal sores. It is not uncommon to see a hole in the skin that goes all the way down to the bone. These wounds, if untreated, can be fatal. It has been estimated that 2,000,000 Americans suffer from these sores, including well known actor Christopher Reeves who died of a pressure ulcer in 2004.

Nursing homes, and other care

providers, are taking extra steps to prevent these types of sores that occur from the negligence of the caregiver. These homes are forming teams to give round-the-clock supervision to help reduce the occurrences of bedsores. Drastic decreases of severe pressure ulcers acquired in-house at these facilities have been reported since the formation of these types of teams. Statewide efforts to reduce pressure ulcers are also under way in California, New Jersey, New York and elsewhere.



### Personal Injury Lawyers

At the law office of Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC, our team of personal injury lawyers includes Allan P. Sloan III, W. Mullins McLeod Jr., Joseph C. Wilson IV, David B. Yarborough Jr. and Ayesha T. Washington. We skillfully represent victims and their families in personal injury and wrongful death claims that result from a negligent act.

As an experienced personal injury and wrongful death law firm, we handle negligence claims involving a variety of issues, such as:

- Alcohol liability (drunk driving accidents)
- Hotel and apartment liability
- Premises liability (dog bites, slip and fall accidents)
- Toxic chemical exposure
- Auto accidents (car, truck, motorcycle and boat accidents)
- Pedestrian and bike accidents
- Assault (sexual assault by a priest, teacher, lifeguard)
- Construction accidents
- Other accidents resulting from negligence

Our Charleston personal injury lawyers believe in righting the wrongs caused by

negligent parties. We pursue compensation for individuals who have sustained a major injury, such as a severe burn, paralysis, head injury, brain injury or other traumatic injury. Additionally, we handle wrongful death actions for those who have lost a loved one.

Contact our South Carolina personal injury attorneys for a free initial consultation.



Pierce, Hems, Sloan and McLeod LLC

**WHEN DOGS ATTACK**

How much is that doggie in the window? Right now, maybe a few hundred dollars, down the road, maybe an expensive lawsuit. Why? In South Carolina, a dog owner is strictly liable for damages caused when a dog bites or otherwise attacks an individual, when that individual is lawfully on the premises where the attack occurred and did not provoke the attack. SC Code Ann. § 47-3-110. The owner is liable regardless of whether or not the dog has demonstrated dangerous propensities prior to the attack. In other words, a dog owner does not receive the benefit of 'one free attack' before they can be held responsible to the victim. Each and every time an individual is injured in a dog attack, they can be compensated for the damages sustained. These damages can range from potential rabies contraction to significant facial scarring, can be short term in nature or result in lifelong insecurities. Although dogs are loveable pets, a one-time attack can result in serious injuries and emotional damage. The lawyers at PHSM are

experienced in representing victims of these unfortunate attacks and take every effort to obtain the requisite compensation for any facial reconstruction or other treatment which may be necessary to allow the victim to once again lead a normal and healthy life.

If you have been bitten or attacked, contact the attorneys at Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC.



**A. Stuart Hudson**  
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Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC  
 Charleston, South Carolina, Personal Injury Attorneys

Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC, located in Charleston, South Carolina, serves clients in Charleston, Moncks Corner, Columbia, Myrtle Beach, Florence, Beaufort, Hilton Head, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Hartsville, Florence, Graniteville and Mount Pleasant. We also serve clients in the Tri-County Area of Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester, as well as Aiken County, Beaufort County, Greenville County, Georgetown County, Colleton County, Jasper County, Horry County, Williamsburg County, Anderson County, Florence County, Sumter County, Richland County and Orangeburg County.

While based in South Carolina, we practice law in all State and Federal Courts throughout the United States. Our attorneys are licensed in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Colorado and Washington State.

**PIERCE, HERNS,  
 SLOAN & McLEOD**

**Attorneys at Law**

**PHSM**

**COLLECTION CASES**

At Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC, attorney Todd Rainsford is experienced in all types of collections cases including mechanics' liens. He currently represents large and small companies obtaining judgments and collecting judgments for accounts receivable. If you are a business owner and need assistance collecting outstanding bills, please let us help you. Todd is a graduate of USC Law School and was a clerk for the honorable John C. Hayes III. For help with a collections case, please contact Todd Rainsford at Pierce, Hems, Sloan & McLeod, LLC.



M. Todd Rainsford