

FAMILY SAFETY & THE LAW





Be Prepared for a Safe and Happy Holiday

by Andrew G. Finkelstein Managing Partner

The holiday season is a wonderful time of year. It is also a time to ensure that your home and property are safe for children, neighbors and visitors.

Fortunately it is fairly easy to do if you use these easy-to-follow steps to prevent accidents and injuries.

Indoors:

- Consider fire safety when decorating: use LED lights instead of candles.
- Make sure that extension cords are not frayed and that wires are tucked or taped out of the way.
- Do not place small or fragile decorations within reach of curious little hands or animals.
 - Unless you're a trained chef, it is

best not to serve raw foods to guests to avoid food poisoning.

■ When purchasing gifts for children check for the latest recalls first. safekids.org/Product-Recalls is a good web resource. You can sign up for email alerts.

Outdoors:

- Eliminate tripping hazards like ladders and flower pots.
- Keep your yard well lit to minimize slips, trips and falls.
- Take great care when using ladders. Make sure it is placed on a flat, stable surface and always have a helper on hand.
- Keep pets safely inside or on a leash if outdoors.
- Make sure that walkways are clear of slippery snow or ice. Use an ice melting product if you're expecting guests or deliveries.

Commit to Quit: Don't Text and Drive

Our firm has a "Commit to Quit Don't Text and Drive" campaign, and we encourage you to have your teen driver take the pledge not to text and drive.



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