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# THE PITTMAN PRESS

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### Upcoming Events

- July 1st—CLICK IT OR TICKET!
- July 4th—Independence Day—has just passed. Keep your family safe and away from dangerous fireworks that are left over.
- Everyday—especially during our summer boating months—remember that operating a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol is as dangerous and illegal as operating a vehicle while impaired.



Wes Pittman

## CLICK IT OR TICKET—IT'S THE LAW!

As of July 1, 2009, law enforcement officers will be able to pull you over and write a ticket if you're not wearing your safety belt. You may be thinking this is old news, however, prior to this modified statute—[CS/SB 344](#)— law enforcement could pull you over for failure to wear your safety belt only if there was another traffic infraction. This statute allows them to pull you over for the seatbelt as the primary reason for the traffic stop. The pick-up truck exemption was also eliminated. This exemption allowed passengers in pick-up trucks to choose to wear safety belts or not. With this modified statute, all vehicle occupants must wear a safety belt that has been factory installed.

There are many opinions—both personal and professional—on the benefits of wearing a safety belt, however, statistically speaking, it will reduce the chance of death or serious injury in a crash. In fact, more than half the people killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2005 were not wearing safety belts. Child safety seats reduces the risk by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers ages 1 to 4. Even that quick trip to the corner store could involve you in an auto accident. Keep you and your family safe and wear a safety belt every time you get in the car.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/buckleup.htm>



## BE PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON—2009

The [National Geographic News](#) reported forecasters at the Colorado State University have predicted this hurricane season is likely to produce only six Atlantic hurricanes. They also predicted twelve tropical storms will form in either the Gulf of Mexico or the Caribbean Sea. Although this number is down from previous seasons, it does not mean you can let your guard down in terms of your hurricane preparedness. It only takes one of these named storms to cause the destruction seen in [Andrew](#) or [Katrina](#). There are many lists that are promoted to alert the public to the items you will need in the event of a severe hurricane. Don't wait until the last minute. Start now and begin picking up the items for your families hurricane preparedness kit. For a complete checklist, visit [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov). If you have an elderly neighbor, check on them too and help them to prepare. As the old saying goes, Better safe than sorry!



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Helping to keep your family safe!



**“ Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and angels know of us.”**

-Thomas Paine

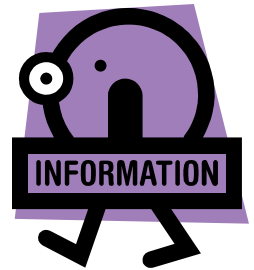
For more inspirational quotes, go to: [www.inspirational-quotes.com](http://www.inspirational-quotes.com)

## PRODUCT RECALLS—Woman’s Robes and more...

A recent alert was distributed concerning the potential fire danger associated with woman’s chenille robes sold by Blair, Inc. [TODAY—MSNBC.com](http://TODAY—MSNBC.com) reported that 6 people have died, some during cooking. Click the link above, or visit [www.pittmanfirm.com](http://www.pittmanfirm.com) and read the article posted.

Consumer Affairs issued a recall recently on 2,000 [Bonavita ‘Cabana’](#) as well as 2,900 ‘[Hudson](#)’ and [Babi Italia ‘Pinehurst](#)’ drop-side cribs. The wooden slats can become detached or break creating a gap, which could pose a fall, entrapment and strangulation hazards to infants and toddlers.

The [FDA](#) provided an update to the [Pistachio Product Recall](#), which indicated its inspection of Salmonella contamination in pistachios and pistachio products associated with the recall has been completed. The FDA encourages consumers to continue to check the FDA website for current information on recalled products. This link and other informative articles can be found on the firm’s website—[www.pittmanfirm.com](http://www.pittmanfirm.com).



If you received this electronically and would prefer a printed copy, let us know at [newsletter@pittmanfirm.com](mailto:newsletter@pittmanfirm.com).

## TOBACCO REGULATION LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW

The [Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Act](#) (HR1256) was signed into law on June 22, 2009. The law, more than a decade in the making, requires companies that make tobacco products to register with the FDA and provide the agency with a detailed product list. The goal of the regulation is to help stop cigarette companies from targeting young people, which is crucial, because almost 90% of all smokers began before they turned 18 years of age. The greater goal is to reduce deaths linked to smoking and shrink the annual \$100 billion healthcare cost for tobacco-related illnesses in the US.

More than 400,000 people in the US die every year from tobacco-related diseases, according to government figures. There are an estimated 45 million adult smokers in the US.



The law will force cigarette packs to carry graphic warnings and forbid the use of misleading terms like “mild” and “low tar” in tobacco advertisements. The National Cancer Institute have found these terms result in mistaken belief about the health consequences, reducing the motivation to quit smoking entirely.

Click [here](#) to see full article in CNNMoney.com

Click [here](#) to see full article in CBSNews.com

Click [here](#) to see full announcement on FDA.gov