

## **Provost Umphrey Law Firm Tackles Important Women's Health Issues**

The Associated Press

Dedicated to meeting the legal needs of the injured nationwide, Provost Umphrey Law Firm, L.L.P., is taking on a leading role in pursuing women's health-related litigation.

"Over the past several years, our firm has really focused its resources in a large part on women's health issues such as breast cancer and birth control devices," said Provost Umphrey attorney Christopher Kirchmer, who practices personal injury trial law focusing on pharmaceutical and medical device product liability. "It is important for women to be aware of current drug and product recalls because if you have a problem related to the use of drugs or devices, acting quickly can be beneficial. The first step is education." Provost Umphrey attorneys handle pharmaceutical litigation nationwide and offer extensive, successful experience in recovering compensation for victims of dangerous drugs and defective medical products. The firm's drug litigation attorneys, including Kirchmer, are currently pursuing women's health-related cases regarding hormone replacement therapy, transvaginal mesh and Mirena.

Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) has been used to treat menopausal symptoms in U.S. women since the early 1940s. HRT is designed to replace the hormones of women when they reach and go beyond menopause, and many women were prescribed HRT as their hormone levels decreased.

Over time, HRT studies began to show a correlation between HRT and breast cancer, and in recent years, major clinical research studies have added substantial strength to the conclusion that HRT causes breast cancer. Following the studies, Provost Umphrey took action in HRT litigation and went on to represent approximately 500 women who had developed or lost their lives to breast cancer or other deadly diseases after using HRT.

"In the end, we were able to make a satisfactory recovery for every woman," Kirchmer said. "The HRT settlement grew into the seed that started Provost Umphrey down this road where we now really have focused a lot of our resources on women's health issues as they relate to these recall drugs and recall products." Provost Umphrey is also currently litigating numerous transvaginal mesh cases with new cases still being accepted. Transvaginal mesh is a device that was specifically designed to help women with Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence. Statistics show that as many as a third of U.S. women will suffer from one of those two problems, particularly women who have had children, and transvaginal mesh was designed to be placed in the abdominal area to help provide support for the internal organs, particularly the female organs. The device ultimately creates a multitude of health problems, including some of the very same

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problems it was designed to alleviate. Many women have also had problems with infections or erosions into various organs in the pelvic region.

The most recent women's health issue Provost Umphrey is concentrating on deals with complications from birth control. The firm is currently accepting cases related to a medical device called Mirena, an IUD (intrauterine device) designed to help women with birth control and irregular bleeding problems. The risks associated with Mirena are caused when the device migrates within the uterine area and moves from its originally inserted position, which creates punctures in the uterine wall and damages surrounding organs. In some cases, a moving Mirena device will puncture into the uterine wall and grow into that area, requiring a physician to surgically remove the device.

For more than forty years, Provost Umphrey's mission has remained to seek justice for those suffering from a personal injury, wrongful death or other legal wrong across Texas and nationwide through their lawyers in Beaumont and Houston, Little Rock, Arkansas and Nashville, Tennessee.

<http://www.provostumphrey.com/> SOURCE Provost Umphrey Law Firm, L.L.P.

-0- 01/29/2013 /CONTACT: Miranda Sevcik, 713-515-9729 /Web Site:

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