

## Defective Cell Phones May Cause Serious Injury

Cell phones continue to grow in popularity as Americans increasingly rely on their cellular phones for personal and business calls. Although cell phone designs have seen advancements in past decade, some cell phones are still facing recalls for safety issues. The most common cause of cell phone injuries occurs when cell phones explode or catch fire. The industry is not quick to take the blame for these defects, claiming that counterfeit batteries are the cause of cell phone explosions or fires. Others say that the problem is a result of trying to put too much power in such a small electronic device. Studies do show, however, that counterfeit batteries are less capable of preventing overheating in cell phones. This overheating leads to malfunctions and possible injury should the phone explode or catch fire.

In the incidences reported to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), injuries occurred on the neck, face, hip and legs of most victims. The CPSC is working to create higher cell phone battery standards so that these types of injuries can be decreased in the years to come. The agency is also pushing manufacturers to issue a warning to consumers that purchasing cheap counterfeit batteries may result in injury if the phone overheats. The battery of the phone may not be at fault. Many argue that the design of the phone may be causing the problem, not allowing proper ventilation of the battery. When overheating occurs, batteries may reach temperatures near 600 degrees. In many reports of cell phone explosions or fires, victims claim that their cell phone began to make strange ticking, or "ping" noise, just before it exploded into flames. In the event that your cell phone begins to make unusual noises, do not go near it. Use another phone to call the technical support number for your phone and follow all of their instructions in order to prevent injury.

In some cases, cell phones have exploded without the owner ever having changed the battery or altered the phone in any way. If a phone is kept in a place that does not allow for ventilation, an explosion may occur. Do not keep phones in tight cases or pockets since both of these may cause the phone to become overheated. Also, avoid allowing your cell phone to come in contact with other metals such as keys or coins. Some speculate that these metals may cause the phone to short circuit and explode. If you are injured by a defective cell phone or cell phone battery, you are eligible to receive compensation for your injuries. Contacting an experienced product liability lawyer is the first step in filing a lawsuit for your injuries.

### About the Author

If you or someone you know has been injured by a defective cell phone, contact the [Sheboygan Personal Injury Attorneys](#) of Habush Habush and Rottier.

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