

AUTUMN 2025

# TREMONT SHELDON P.C.

## Tremont Sheldon Settles Fall-Down Case After Client Was Blamed for Wearing CROCS™



Tremont Sheldon successfully settled a complex fall-down case right before it was scheduled for trial. The case involved our client, who was seriously injured and required neck surgery after he slipped and fell on snow and ice in a gas station parking lot. The defendant denied liability the entire time and blamed our client for his fall, arguing that he wore improper “summer” footwear, was trespassing, and failed to walk carefully and/or observe the snow and ice. The defendant further claimed that it was not responsible because there was an “ongoing storm” and therefore it had no duty to remove the snow and ice until later in the day. Tremont Sheldon took numerous depositions of the store owner and employees, as well as working up other aspects of the case, forcing the insurance company to settle on the eve of the trial. The negotiated settlement was extremely beneficial to our client.



## Watch Out for Insurance Companies and the Low First Offer

Tremont Sheldon P.C. has observed a recent trend where insurance companies offer very low

amounts soon after the accident, while the injured client is still being treated, in an attempt to entice them to settle the case for a low amount and not near the full value. Obviously, our office does not let this happen. For example, Jason Tremont is working on a case in which just under one month after the

accident, the insurance company sent a letter indicating “a timely and fair settlement of \$6,650” would be in order. This was untrue, as the client’s injuries were more severe. As Jason and our team developed the case, we were able to settle the case for the full \$250,000 insurance policy, which was over 40 times the initial offer. The Tremont Sheldon team is now seeking additional funds from an additional insurance carrier. This case exemplifies why not to take or be cautious of the first offer from an insurance company and not get discouraged until you investigate your claim thoroughly. We are always happy to guide you after an accident, no matter how big or small.



## New Laws in Connecticut Starting October 1st

Many new laws went into effect on October 1st in Connecticut. We highlighted a few that are related to our clients and the work that we do. For a complete list, go to the state of Connecticut website and see the summaries and full bills.

### Motorcycle Helmet Law

A new law raises the age under which motorcycle drivers and passengers are required to wear a helmet from 18 to 21, with a minimum \$90 fine for infractions.



cancer to the types of cancer that the program covers and makes other changes to the eligibility criteria; requires the program's benefits be provided as if the cancer had been caused by an occupational disease as opposed to a personal injury, thereby extending the statute of limitations; and authorizes administrative law judges to adjudicate a firefighter's appeal of a denial of benefits from the program.

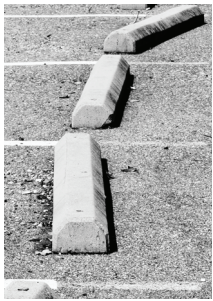


### Firefighters Cancer Relief Program

A new Connecticut law makes various changes to a program that provides workers-compensation-like benefits to firefighters who have certain types of cancer and meet other criteria. Among other things, the new law adds skin

### E-Bikes

Manufacturers of electronic bicycles will be required to attach printed stickers that indicate top vehicle speeds and wattage for all types of e-bikes. Penalties for upgrading equipment to make the average bike exceed 20 miles per hour range from \$100 to \$300. The new law will also prohibit the use of some e-bikes on traditional bike paths and hiking trails.



## Google Street View Helps Settle Fall-Down Case

Our client was injured when she tripped and fell as she exited a local chain drug store. At first, she didn't know what caused her to fall, but she remembered that an unidentified bystander allowed her to use his phone to call her son. We were able to track down the owner of the phone, who confirmed that he loaned it to her. Although he did not see the fall, he indicated that he heard our client tell the EMT that she tripped on an unsecured parking block that was on the sidewalk. Photographs captured by Google Street View indicated that the parking block had been on the sidewalk, unsecured, for 9 months before the fall. Tremont Sheldon was able to resolve this matter with a substantial settlement.

## Video Recording at Grocery Store Helps Resolve Slip-and-Fall Case for \$200,000

Our client suffered serious injuries when she slipped and fell as a result of clear lotion on the floor of a local grocery store. Proving liability in these types of cases can be very difficult. The injured party is legally required to prove that the store owner had actual



or constructive notice of the condition that caused the fall and failed to warn of the condition promptly and eliminate it. Tremont Sheldon obtained a video taken by the grocery store, which showed our client's fall, the substance on the floor, and how

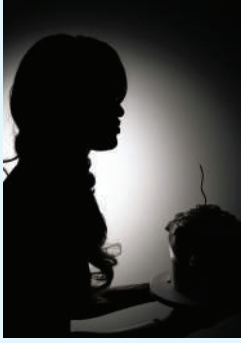
long it had been there. It also identified several witnesses who subsequently provided helpful testimony. This information was instrumental in helping our client to obtain a \$200,000 settlement just before trial.

## Lack of Vehicle Damage Doesn't Mean Lack of Physical Injury



Looks can be deceiving. A seemingly small case can develop into one of substantial value. Our client was a passenger in a

friend's vehicle, which was rear-ended while it was stopped behind other traffic. There was no substantial damage to either vehicle. Our client did not seek medical attention after the collision, although she did complain that her seatbelt pulled tight afterwards. At the time, she was recovering from right shoulder arthroscopic surgery done three months earlier. Our client continued to experience substantial right shoulder pain after the accident. Her orthopedic specialist had her undergo an MRI, which showed a tear in her shoulder that required further surgery. Armed with this medical evidence, Tremont Sheldon was able to successfully settle our client's case for the full policy limit of \$100,000.



### Protecting Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims

The new act expanded the confidentiality protections for the locations of shelters or transitional housing for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. It explicitly bans public agencies from disclosing any information about these locations, regardless of the

state's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The previous law specified that FOIA did not require a public agency to disclose any information indicating the location of a shelter or the victims and was silent on shelters or housing for sexual assault victims.



### Human Trafficking and Sexual Assault Victims

This act makes several changes to laws when it comes to victims of sexual assault and human trafficking. The act makes sexual assault victim status and trafficking victim status protected classes under the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) antidiscrimination laws, and defines these terms for this purpose.

Specifically, the act bans various forms of discrimination based on someone's status as a victim, such as in employment, public accommodations, housing sales or rentals, granting credit, and other areas.

## All Tremont Sheldon P.C. Lawyers Recognized as Best Lawyers® Award Recipients 2026

Tremont Sheldon P.C. is pleased to announce that all lawyers have been included in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America®. Since it was first published in 1983, Best Lawyers has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. Tremont Sheldon P.C. would like to congratulate the following lawyers named to 2026 The Best Lawyers in America list and 2026 Best Lawyers Ones to Watch.

#### FRANK A. BAILEY

Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs and Workers' Compensation Law - Claimants

#### ROBERT R. SHELDON

Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs and Workers' Compensation Law - Claimants

#### JASON E. TREMONT

Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs and Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs

Ones to Watch in America:

#### TIMOTHY M. RAMSEY

Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs and Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs



We take great pride in our building and enjoy planting seasonal flowers. We planted mums in September to celebrate fall.



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## Have you seen our new Bridgeport banners?



They're now up on Main Street—right outside the courthouse, near the historic Mechanics & Farmers Savings Bank building, and close to Fairfield Avenue!

We are proud to support Colorful Bridgeport and our local community! Colorful Bridgeport is a project of The Downtown Special Services District (DSSD) in Bridgeport, CT. This initiative plays a vital role in enhancing the vibrancy and appeal of the downtown area. It creates a welcoming and thriving environment by organizing community events, improving public spaces, and providing essential services such as street cleaning and safety initiatives. The DSSD collaborates closely with local

businesses and property owners to promote economic growth, ensuring that Downtown Bridgeport remains a dynamic hub for culture, commerce, and community engagement.

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

All Personal Injury Claims Including:

- Car/Motorcycle Accidents • Child Sexual Abuse • Medical Malpractice
- Falls • Dog Bites • Workers' Compensation

For a complete list, please visit our website.

*All materials in this newsletter are for purposes of general information only – nothing in the newsletter should be considered legal advice. Individuals are urged to seek the advice of an attorney before taking any action on matters reviewed in this newsletter.*