



Press release

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Tackle Football Legislation Must Not Be Kicked Out of Play, Say New York Brain Injury Lawyers

New York brain injury attorneys [De Caro & Kaplen, LLP](#) have voiced “growing concerns” about the lack of progress in legislation that would ban or limit tackling in youth football.

In the first half of 2018, bills were introduced in several US states, however, each bill was subsequently rejected, or withdrawn pending amendment.

Now, at the beginning of the fall football season, Michael Kaplen, a partner in the firm, and past president of the Brain Injury Association of New York State, has called for legislative momentum to be regained, “We were encouraged by legislative initiatives at the beginning of the year, and believed that it was only a matter of time before legislation was enacted in the first states, and hoped there would be a snowball effect with more and more states following suit throughout the year. Sadly, this forward momentum appears to have come to a standstill.”

Kaplen continued, “This is a serious issue that impacts the health and safety of all children involved in the sport of football, and we have growing concerns about the lack of progress in creating a safe environment for children. Football is a concussion delivery system and legislation to protect our children must not be kicked out of play by those who clearly do not comprehend the scale of the problem.”

According to most recent injury surveillance data, sports and recreational activities accounted for an estimated 325,000 TBI related emergency department visits in children and teenagers.

A 2017 survey of students in grades 9 through 12, found 15% of youths in the United States reported at least one concussion in the prior year.

Shana De Caro, a partner in the firm and secretary of the Brain Injury Association of America, maintains these figures prove that brain injury has reached “epidemic” proportions. With the 2018 school football season upon us, urgent action must be taken, “Without the required changes in law to protect our children, the new school football season means new brain injuries. Plain and simple. We have reached epidemic levels, and we must take action now.”

De Caro & Kaplen, LLP maintains a web portal which track proposals, news, legislation, and related information on initiatives seeking to ban tackling in youth football. The portal, which includes an interactive map and timeline, can be found on the firm’s website at www.brainlaw.com/youth-tackle-football.

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For further information please contact Michael V. Kaplen by email michael@brainlaw.com or telephone (914) 747 4410

About De Caro & Kaplen, LLP

The brain injury law firm of De Caro & Kaplen, LLP is dedicated to protecting the legal rights of brain injury victims. The firm has represented brain injury survivors for over 35 years for traumatic brain damage caused by motor vehicle collisions, bus and truck crashes, unsafe buildings and construction sites, and medical malpractice. Shana De Caro and Michael V. Kaplen, nationally recognized for their legal skills have each served as chairpersons of the American Association for Justice, Traumatic Brain Injury Litigation Group and have been selected by their peers as Super Lawyers.