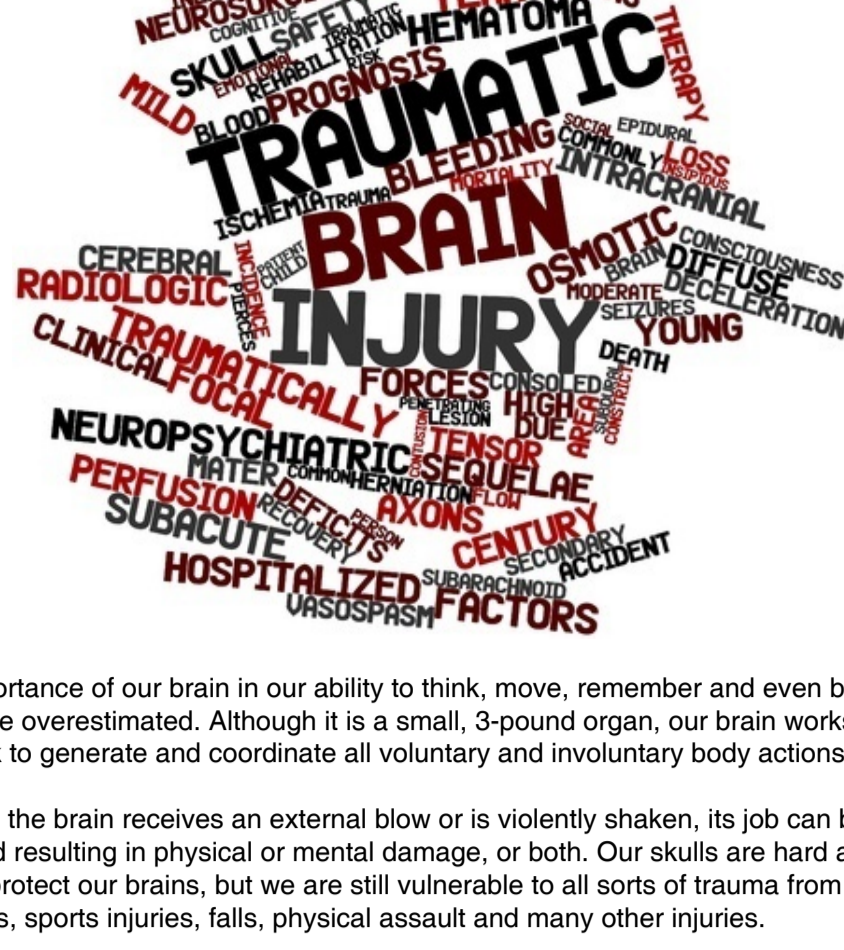


## Traumatic Brain Injury: A Serious and Life-Altering Injury



The importance of our brain in our ability to think, move, remember and even breathe cannot be overestimated. Although it is a small, 3-pound organ, our brain works around the clock to generate and coordinate all voluntary and involuntary body actions.

So when the brain receives an external blow or is violently shaken, its job can be disrupted resulting in physical or mental damage, or both. Our skulls are hard and usually protect our brains, but we are still vulnerable to all sorts of trauma from car accidents, sports injuries, falls, physical assault and many other injuries.

In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), traumatic brain injury contributes to 30% of all the deaths in the U.S. due to injury. Of the 1.7 million people who sustain brain injuries each year, 52,000 will die.

### What is a Traumatic Brain Injury?

Any brain injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain is a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). TBIs can be either mild or severe. A concussion is a mild TBI although still disorienting and painful. Severe brain injuries may result in periods of unconsciousness and memory loss as well as disability and even death.

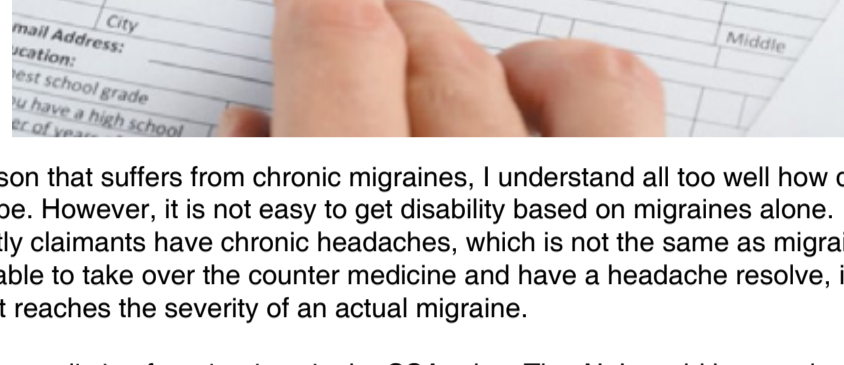
When a victim experiences any type of accident, such as a car crash, falling and hitting the head, or banging heads at a soccer game, and displays any symptoms of a brain injury, get medical help immediately! Here are some of the most common symptoms:

- Mild TBI (concussion): Headache, dizziness, confusion, fatigue, lethargy, blurred vision, mood swings, lightheadedness, problems concentrating.
- Moderate to severe TBI: The above signs plus a persistent severe headache, weakness or numbness in the extremities, dilation of one or both pupils, slurred speech, inability to waken from sleep, and/or increased agitation or confusion.

TBIs can contribute to clinical depression and can cause personality changes.

A TBI can bring devastating and permanent emotional and cognitive damage on top of physical disability. Victims may suffer huge economic losses in terms of ongoing medical expenses, therapy and rehabilitation costs, lost wages and earning capacity, and costs of vehicle and home modifications.

## Disability for Migraine Sufferers



As a person that suffers from chronic migraines, I understand all too well how disabling this can be. However, it is not easy to get disability based on migraines alone. Frequently claimants have chronic headaches, which is not the same as migraines. If you are able to take over the counter medicine and have a headache resolve, it is unlikely it reaches the severity of an actual migraine.

There is not a listing for migraines in the SSA rules. The ALJ would have to look at your residual functional capacity, your medical records, and consider your testimony in making a decision. Further, a Q and A by Social Security states "Under our general policy, you cannot establish the existence of any MDI (Medically Determinable Impairment) based solely on a diagnosis in the evidence or on a claimant's reported symptoms. There must be clinical signs or laboratory findings to support the finding. A diagnosis of migraine headaches requires a detailed description from a physician of a typical headache event (intense headache with more than moderate pain and with associated migraine characteristics and phenomena) that includes a description of all associated phenomena; for example, premonitory symptoms, aura, duration, intensity, accompanying symptoms, and effects of treatment."

Certain things the ALJ will be looking for:

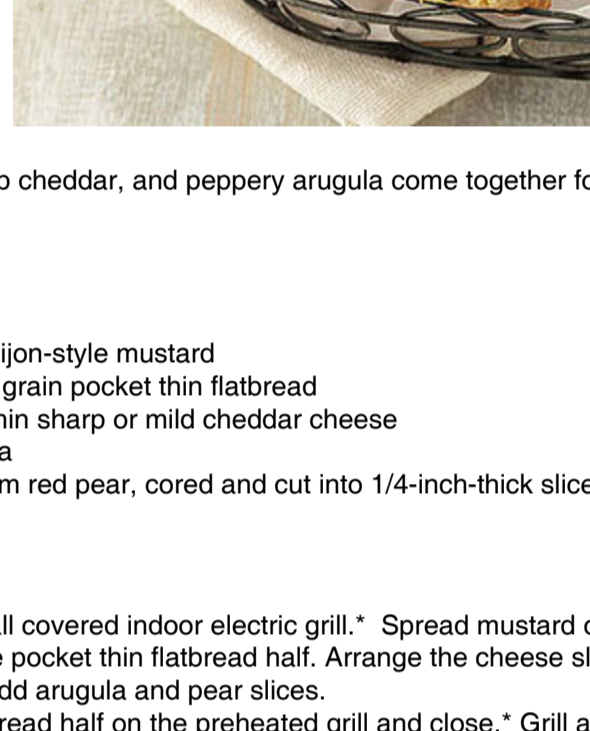
- Emergency room or urgent care visits for migraines that won't respond to recovery medicines (generally triptan medicines)
- CT Scans or EEG
- preventative meds such as topomax, elavil, depakote, etc.
- headache journal documenting the days you would be unable to work from symptoms or occurrences, as well as the time you would be considered "Off task"
- a pattern of headache events

Listing 11.03 for non-convulsive epilepsy is somewhat instructive in how the ALJ will review your migraines. In this Listing it states: 1) Documented by detailed description of a typical headache event pattern 2) Including all associated phenomena (ie: permonitory symptoms, aura, duration, intensity, accompanying symptoms, treatment, 3) occurring more than once weekly and 4) with alteration of awareness and 5) significant interference with activity during the day (ie: need for darkened room, lying down without moving, sleep disturbance that impacts daily activities)

I see many claimants that claim that a pain medication that is for their back or other body part is also being used for their headaches. Narcotics are generally not the first line of defense for migraines, a whole other class of drugs are used. Should you wish to hire me as your attorney, I will review your treatment and medical history to see if it accurately depicts migraines.

If you or a family member has been injured in an accident caused by a drunk driver or any other type of personal injury, it is important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call the Jebaily Law Firm, P.A., at our Florence office at 1-855-971-0400 for your initial free consultation or contact us via the website. The Jebaily Law Firm, personal injury attorneys in Florence, South Carolina, can help you determine whether you need a lawyer for any incident or personal injury case.

## Recipe of the Month Grilled Pear-Cheddar Pockets



Crunchy pear, sharp cheddar, and peppery arugula come together for a delicious and healthy sandwich.

### Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons Dijon-style mustard
- 1/2 of a whole grain pocket thin flatbread
- 2 slices ultra-thin sharp or mild cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup arugula
- 1/3 of a medium red pear, cored and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices

### Directions

1. Preheat a small covered indoor electric grill.\* Spread mustard over the interior surfaces of the pocket thin flatbread half. Arrange the cheese slices in the pocket, folding to fit. Add arugula and pear slices.
2. Place the flatbread half on the preheated grill and close.\* Grill about 1 1/2 minutes or until lightly toasted.

### Tip

\* If you do not have a covered indoor electric grill, place filled pocket in a preheated nonstick skillet and cook 2 to 4 minutes or until lightly toasted, turning pocket once.

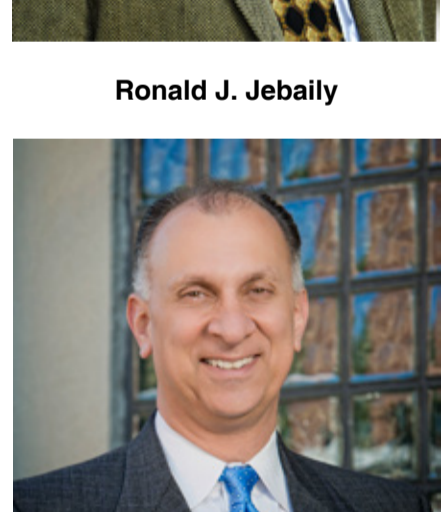
## What's Happening in Florence

- June 3**  
National Trails Day - 5K  
McLeod Health & Fitness Center  
Florence, SC  
[http://www.roadracerunner.com/re\\_370554/NationalTrailsDays5K.html](http://www.roadracerunner.com/re_370554/NationalTrailsDays5K.html)
- June 9**  
Brad Long  
Fats @ The Warehouse  
Conway, SC  
[http://eventful.com/conway\\_sc/events/brad-long-/E0-001-098664074-3](http://eventful.com/conway_sc/events/brad-long-/E0-001-098664074-3)
- June 10**  
First Annual Cruisin' Downtown Florence Car Show  
Downtown Florence  
Florence, SC  
<http://www.florencedowntown.com/downtown-events/cruisincarshow/>
- June 10**  
Taylor Girtz  
Florence Civic Center  
Florence, SC  
[http://eventful.com/florence\\_sc/events/taylor-girtz-/E0-001-102693620-8](http://eventful.com/florence_sc/events/taylor-girtz-/E0-001-102693620-8)
- June 10**  
K9 - 5K  
Eggs Orthodontics  
Sumter, SC  
<http://www.sumtersc.gov/k9-5k-2017-06-10>
- June 17**  
Pedal for PADD  
First Presbyterian Church  
Florence, SC  
<http://www.paddsc.org/pedal-for-padd.html>
- June 25**  
Anthony Hamilton  
Florence Civic Center  
Florence, SC  
[http://eventful.com/florence\\_sc/events/anthony-hamilton-/E0-001-102892748-0](http://eventful.com/florence_sc/events/anthony-hamilton-/E0-001-102892748-0)
- June 30**  
The Carolina Breakers  
Florence After 5  
Florence, SC  
<http://thecarolinabreakers.com/>

## Follow us...



## Meet Our Attorneys



**Ronald J. Jebaily**



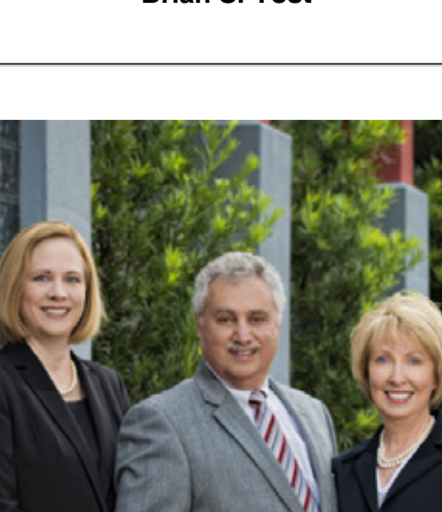
**George D. Jebaily**



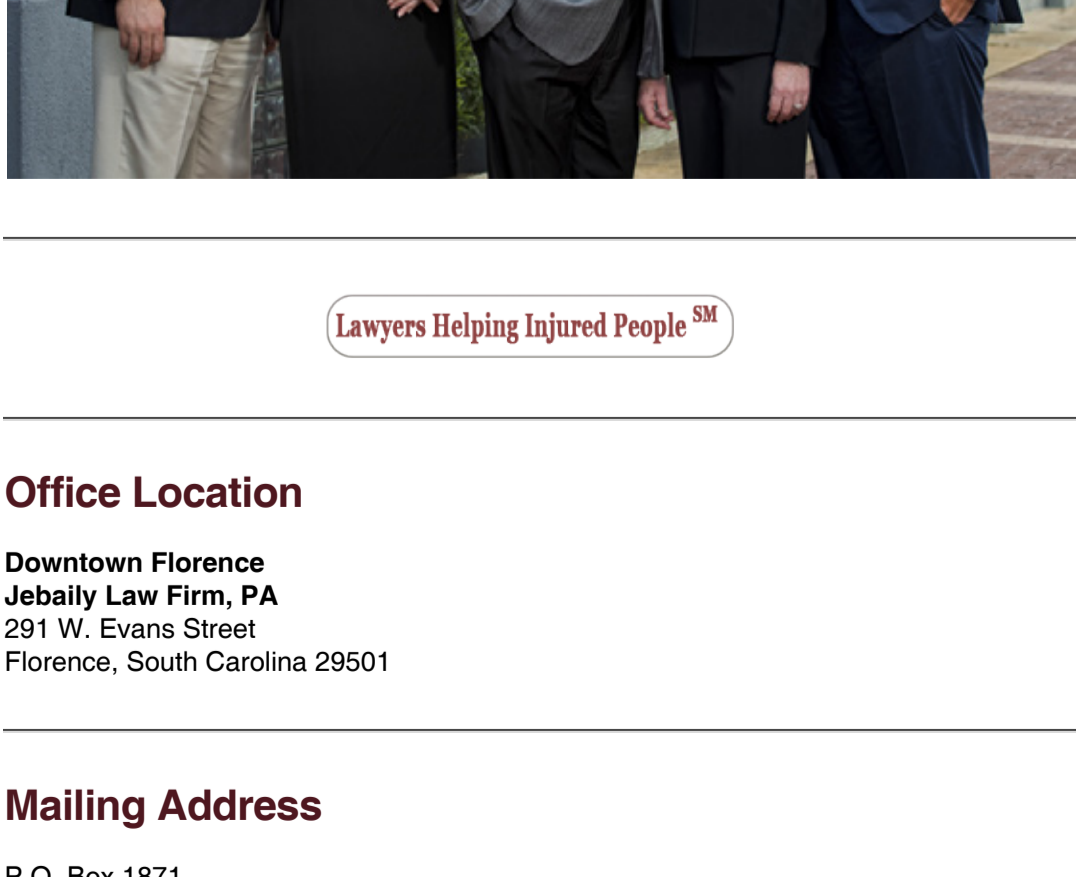
**Rangeley C. Bailey**



**Suzanne H. Jebaily**



**Brian S. Yost**



Lawyers Helping Injured People <sup>SM</sup>

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