



Is Your Swimming Pool Safe: A Quick Checklist on Pool Safety Standards

As drowning remains the number one unintentional cause of death for children in the U.S. ages 1 to 4, and the second leading cause among children ages 5 to 14, it is important to make pool and water safety a top priority this summer.

May is National Water Safety Month and Cohen Milstein's **Complex Tort Litigation** team has prepared a quick checklist on what to look for when evaluating the safety of public swimming pools:

- **Are there adequate layers of security?** According to major safety organizations, including the **American Red Cross**, the **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**, and the **American Academy of Pediatrics**, public swimming pools should have adequate layers of protection. At a minimum, all swimming pools should have a child safety fence with self-locking doors and gates.
- **Is the pool really closed?** **American National Standard for Public Swimming Pools (ANSPS)** advocates that when a public pool is closed for use, a secondary lock system be put in place to prevent access.
- **Are utility or service gates secure?** The **International Swimming Pool and Spa Code** recommends that gates not intended for pedestrian use, such as utility or service gates, remain locked when not in use.
- **What happens during bad weather?** **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** advocates that swimming pool activity should be prohibited during inclement weather.
- **Are there safety devices?** **ANSPS** requires that public pools always have safety hooks and flotation devices mounted in easy to see places and that are readily available for use and that all pools with a slope transition have safety line anchors and a safety line in place.
- **Who can perform CPR?** **ANSPS** requires that a CPR-certified individual be on premises whenever a public pool is in use.

Cohen Milstein's **Complex Tort Litigation** practice litigates **Unsafe & Defective Products**, and **Wrongful Death & Catastrophic Injury** claims related to swimming pool safety. If you're interested in learning more about the firm's Complex Tort Litigation practice, please **email us**, or call us at 561.515.1400.

We co-counsel nationwide.

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