

DAVID E. GORDON

The Law Office of David E. Gordon

Board-Certified Civil Trial Specialist

Fewer than 2% of Tennessee lawyers are board-certified.



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TheMemphisLawyer.com



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April is DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

Distracted driving is a serious problem on our roadways. Cell phones are the best-known distractor but are far from the only thing keeping drivers' attention off the road. This April, in honor of Distracted Driving Awareness Month, we ask each of you to take a moment and think about what distractions you allow inside your vehicle so that you can make an effort to eliminate them.



Anything a driver does while behind the wheel that takes their attention away from the task at hand - driving - is a distraction. If a driver takes their eyes off the road for only five seconds while travelling 55 mph, they will cover about 300 feet - blind.

To stay safe on the road, put the phone away and keep your attention where it belongs by avoiding the following 4 distractions:



VISUAL DISTRACTIONS

Watching a video, looking at a map, checking out something on the side of the road.



PHYSICAL DISTRACTIONS

Answering the phone, eating a snack, putting on makeup.



AUDIBLE DISTRACTIONS

A passenger talking to you, music playing too loud.



MENTAL DISTRACTION

Thinking about a work problem, shopping list, or weekend plans.

**Law Office Makes
Coronavirus Changes**

As a health precaution, our office has planned for clients to gain our services without ever leaving their home. Clients may engage our help by simply signing an agreement on their phone! If you or someone you care about has been injured, call us now so we can take care of them.

Top Causes of Construction Accidents in Tennessee



TheMemphisLawyer.com

Construction workers in Memphis and Northern Mississippi are exposed to life-threatening hazards on a daily basis. Safety regulations that prevent deaths and serious injuries must be monitored carefully and relentlessly enforced to keep workers protected. If you are injured in a construction accident, it is vital to know that you may have TWO claims, workers compensation AND a claim against the company that caused your injury.

According to OSHA, 4,101 private industry workers were killed in a single recent year. One in five of these fatal accidents took place in the field of construction. The list of the most common causes of construction accidents has falls as No. 1:

Falls

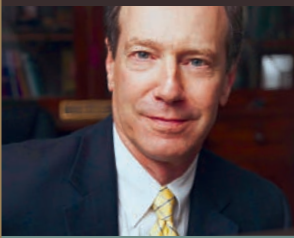
Falls from heights are the No. 1 cause of fatal injuries on construction sites. In one year, OSHA reported that 302 of the 828 total deaths in construction were caused by falls. Construction workers are often required to work at heights on unstable structures such as scaffolding, ladders and roofs. OSHA commonly cites fall protection violations and fall hazards as the cause of devastating injuries.

Construction site injuries usually result in a workers' compensation claim, but there may also be a claim against the general contractor or the employer of the worker that caused your injury. This is a much more substantial claim and must not be overlooked. Please call our office to see whether your work injury qualifies for what the law calls third party liability.

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*The greatest professional compliment we can receive is when one of our clients refers a friend, family member, or neighbor to our firm. **Thank you!** We appreciate your confidence in us.*



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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for professional legal advice. For your specific situation, please call the appropriate legal professional.

If you are injured while driving on the job, you have TWO injury claims

Suppose a local route driver is injured in an accident while on his way to make a delivery or a salesperson is injured en route to a presentation. First, it is important to know that worker's compensation benefits apply, even if the accident is the employee's fault. But if the accident is not the employee's fault, then the injured worker should also be compensated by the other driver. The driver at fault is obligated to pay the injured worker like any other injured motorist; namely, for medical bills, lost earnings, pain and suffering, and loss of enjoyment of life. (Remember, however, that if you get paid by the at fault driver, the workers' compensation insurance company is entitled to reimbursement for everything it previously paid).

In the event of a serious injury, the claim against the other driver for your pain and suffering and loss of enjoyment of life will be the larger claim. Workers compensation benefits in TN and MS have been pared down by the state legislatures, resulting in very little money for even permanent injuries. So the victim of a car wreck at work should consult a lawyer to see whether he can be compensated fully through an automobile insurance claim.

It is possible in this situation that your own automobile insurance policy will provide compensation to you even though you were injured in a company vehicle while at work. This would be the case if the other driver is uninsured and you have uninsured motorist coverage on your policy.

