

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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The Dangers of Motorcycle Crash Head Injuries

Any motor vehicle collision is dangerous but for bikers the risk of serious injury is significantly increased. This increase is due to the protection that a motorcycle does not offer its rider. For this reason, head injuries affect a motorcycle rider at a higher rate.

Because the head houses the brain, every physical function of the body is controlled there. This means that a severe head injury could cause a life-altering and potentially life-ending injury. A motorcycle crash could cause skull bruising, bleeding, swelling and tearing in the brain.

The leading cause of death or serious injury during a motorcycle accident is traumatic brain injury (TBI). TBIs are caused by a sudden blow or jolt to the head from some type of blunt trauma. Types of TBI

injuries are classified by the severity of the case- mild, moderate and severe. The recovery time for each injury will depend on the severity of the head injury. Some injuries only need rest and medication while other injuries could require hospitalization. Every head injury is serious, even if it seems mild. Make sure you see a medical professional so they can evaluate the best course of treatment.

One of the best ways to prevent a head injury while riding a motorcycle is to wear a helmet. Wearing a helmet is a motorcyclist's best chance to avoid a permanent disability or even death in a crash. The helmet absorbs the impact and reduces the chances of a fatal head injury considerably. If you or someone you know as been injured in a motorcycle accident, call our office. We are here to help.

Can Police Detect the Speed of a Car After a Crash?

Many car crashes are caused by speeding drivers. Can police determine the speed a vehicle was traveling after a collision? If so, can that be used as evidence in an auto accident claim?

Examining a Crash After It Happens

After a car crash it sometimes difficult for investigators to find out what caused it. The police will ordinarily do little more than speak with the drivers and eyewitnesses, which do not exist in many cases. This means that the speed of the vehicles usually remains a mystery until an expert known as an accident reconstructionist examines the physical evidence left at the scene, including skid marks, photographs, road conditions, and the wrecked cars themselves. By using this evidence, along with specific calculations, these specialists may be able to provide an estimated speed of a car or truck at the time of the collision.

A crucial tool for determining the speed of a vehicle is its electronic control module (ECM) or "black box." Most modern vehicles are equipped with an electronic data recorder that captures vehicle and event data including speed, GPS location, deceleration (braking) and impact-related

factors. The black box can tell the reconstructionist how fast a car was moving within seconds of the collision and at the time of the collision.

How Can You Use This Evidence in Your Car Crash Claim?

In car crash claims the injured victim must prove that the other driver was negligent in order to receive compensation. Furthermore, the victim must show that this negligence caused their pain and suffering.

Evidence of speed can be critical to the determination of fault. Though a driver turning left is usually at fault for a crash with an oncoming vehicle, if it can be shown that the oncoming vehicle was driving at a reckless speed, then the oncoming vehicle may be found at fault.

If it can be established that the other driver's speeding caused the accident, the victim could receive compensation for:

- ▶ Lost wages
- ▶ Medical expenses
- ▶ Pain and suffering
- ▶ Property damage
- ▶ Loss of earning capacity

If you were injured in a car crash call our office today.





Be Certain You Have Uninsured Motorist Coverage

In Tennessee, about 20 percent of the drivers sharing the road do not have current auto insurance, and the state ranks sixth in the number of uninsured drivers. The likelihood of being hit by one of these drivers is exceptionally high in the Memphis and North Mississippi area. **THIS IS WHY YOU MUST GET UNINSURED MOTORIST (UM) COVERAGE!** If you discover the other driver did not carry any auto insurance, your own insurance must be accessed to recover compensation for your injuries and property damages. Here are some of the instances in which your UM coverage can help you:

- ▶ You are injured by an uninsured driver while you are driving
- ▶ You are the victim of a hit-and-run collision

- ▶ You are injured by an uninsured driver while you are bicycling
- ▶ You are injured by an uninsured driver while you are walking
- ▶ You are injured by an uninsured driver while you are a passenger

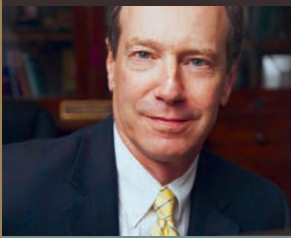
Please check with your insurance company to be sure you have it. We have seen many clients outraged when they get hurt in a wreck and then discover they do not have the UM coverage they thought they had purchased.

And remember, there is a state law against raising your premium or cancelling your policy for a claim that is not your fault. Making a UM claim cannot hurt you!

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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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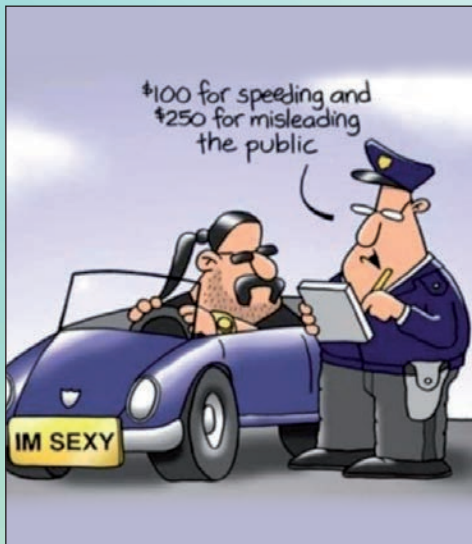
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Can I File a Lawsuit for a **Red Light Auto Accident?**

Did a red-light runner hit your car? Unfortunately, 28% of deadly crashes at stop light intersections are caused by distracted or impatient drivers running red lights. Can you file a lawsuit if you were in a red light car collision?

Filing a Personal Injury Claim for a Traffic Light Accident

In a red-light car crash it's obvious that the driver who ran the red light is at fault. The challenge is convincing the other driver's insurance company that you had the green light. Many times, both drivers claim they had the light. That's why it is so important to have a witness to an intersection crash. You must have the name and phone of the witness and it is much more powerful if the witness gives their statement to the police. Beg them to stay if necessary. If you were hit by another driver who ran a red light and you sustained personal injury, medical expenses or damage to your vehicle, you may be entitled to compensation.

