

Bicycle Accidents: Are They Truly Safer Than Cars?

A common misconception among the public is that bicycle transportation is vastly safer than traveling by car. According to the CDC, despite bicycle transportation only accounting for a mere 1% of trips taken in the United States, “bicyclists face a higher risk of crash related injury and deaths than occupants in motor vehicles.” Nearly 800 cyclists are killed in accidents every year, a total that amounts to 1/40th of all reported road deaths.

Establishing Liability

Most people automatically assume the driver is at fault in any accident involving a bicycle. This belief, however, is a bit of a misnomer. Bicyclists are subject to the same roadway laws as motorists, and the police officer arriving at the scene of the accident will be sure to assign liability to whomever is at fault. If you use a bicycle for transportation, learning and then obeying bicyclist laws is important to prevent being injured in an accident of your own making. If you’ve been involved in a bicycle accident and feel you are not at fault, do not hesitate to press liability on the driver of the automobile. Establishing liability early on can make or break a case.

Bicycle Accident Causes

There are a variety of reasons for bicycle accidents involving an automobile. The most common cause is due to recklessness or inattention on behalf of the driver. Veering into a bike lane, speeding through intersections, and not yielding to bicyclists are just a few examples of how a bicyclist may be struck by an automobile. In order to prove a driver’s actions are responsible for a bicyclist’s injuries one should obtain firsthand accounts of the accident from any eyewitness. Police reports and traffic citations could also prove key in making a case against a negligent driver.

Building Your Personal Injury Case

If you are a bicyclist who has been injured by an automobile you may be entitled to compensation. Medical bills accumulate fast and protracted recovery period can keep you out of work for long periods of time. Hiring a personal injury attorney may be the best route to ensure you receive just compensation. Our attorneys have decades of experience handling bicycle accident claims and will work tirelessly to make your life whole again. Call The Advocates today for a free evaluation of your case.