

MAXPOWER LAW

ROAD & RUBBER



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YEAR IN REVIEW WITH MAX MEYERS LAW

Do you feel like we've returned to "normal?" The best answer feels like sort of! The world seems more crazy but in a different way. Wars are raging across the globe, economic turmoil is still top of mind, mortgage rates are crazy high, and people are still driving like maniacs on our roads.

There are bright points as well: fun events are back (love me a good music concert and live football game), covid restrictions are fully lifted, plenty of work out there for folks, and life is generally moving forward with a refreshed sense of what is important to each person. We are looking forward to a better future.

For us at MML the process of handling vehicle collision claims has definitely returned to normal. The courts are fully back open and operating normally again. Some things have changed, like Zoom is here to stay but in more limited situations. Insurance companies are back to normal, doing everything they can to not pay reasonable amounts to injury victims.

Accidents are still up, with serious injury and fatal accident levels remaining far too high. The old saying "Speed Kills" has never been more illustrated in the

news than this last year. The need to insure yourself has never been higher than now in my 25 years as an attorney. Please, please, please, make sure you have at least 250,000 in UM/UIM auto insurance. The number of cases we see without adequate insurance to cover an injury claim has risen substantially.

As usual our amazing readers have recommended us to their friends and family. THANK YOU for your continued faith in us. Your trust in recommending your friends and family to us is a source of great pride for our Team!

I wish you all the best this Holiday Season and in the coming New Year!



HOLIDAY BUDGET TIPS

We all look forward to spending time with our loved ones every holiday season. Who doesn't love hearing the festive songs on the radio, seeing all the lights and decorations throughout town, and most importantly, taking a break from the daily routine of life to spend time catching up with family.

While I love all of these things about the holiday season, it can also be a bit overwhelming to think about all the gift shopping. Trying to figure out just the right gift for everyone can be stressful enough, but if you are on a budget it can be even harder! Are you on a tight budget this holiday season? Here are a few tips I have found useful for getting organized and help you stick to a holiday shopping budget:

Make a list of everyone you plan to buy a gift.

Put a dollar amount next to each name so that you set a price limit ahead of time and then stick to your budget.

Use your phone to do price checks.

One of the joys of technology is that you can look online ahead of time to find the best deals out there.

If possible, buy last year's electronics.

If you don't care about all the fancy new features, save yourself some money and buy a device that is maybe a few months older than the newest model.

Homemade gifts can be some of the most memorable and cost effective!

Grandparents love receiving photos of their grandkids and baked goods can be a huge hit. My wife Shelly cans jam in the summer and often gives jars as gifts at Xmas. No need to break the bank to make someone a special gift.

Save up now!

If you know you have a big-ticket item you will be purchasing, start setting money aside early. You can even sign up to have your bank automatically transfer money into a savings account for you.

Stick to your shopping list.

There is a ton of cool stuff out there and it will entice you to want to buy during the holiday season. Don't get distracted! Stay focused on your list and get out of the store as soon as you have what you need.

Review your account statements and pay your bills regularly.

This will allow you to stay on top of what you're spending and stick to your set budget. If you have a credit card that offers cash back or other rewards, consider using this for holiday gift purchases. You are going to spend money anyway, so might as well get something back in return!

The Max Meyers Law team wishes you a safe and Happy Holiday season!



December 1 - 31 Zoo Lights

Tacoma - Bundle up to admire 800,000 holiday lights and displays at Zoolights at Point Defiance Zoo. The kids area has goats, and there are fire pits. Closed Dec. 24 & 25.

Visit www.pdza.org/event/zoolights/ for details.

Seattle - WildLanterns features "large-scale animal and nature scape lanterns representing wild places from around the globe" including bugs, dinosaurs, tigers, peacocks, and dragons, with snacks for sale and a show in the entrance building at Woodland Park Zoo.

Closed Dec. 24 & 25, and most Mondays.

Visit www.zoo.org/wildlanterns for details.

December 9 - 10 Renegade Craft Fair

Renegade Craft Fair offers indie crafts, food trucks, and DJ music at Hangar 30 at Magnuson Park in Seattle.

Visit www.renegadecraft.com/fair/seattle-winter/ for details.

December 9 Taste of Bothell

Sample 50 wines, beers, ciders, and spirits in 23 shops during Holiday Wine, Beer & Spirits Walk in Downtown Bothell for age 21+. You're welcome to "wear your goofy holiday sweaters, blinking antlers, bells, and elf boots."

Visit <https://cm.bothellkenmorechamber.org/events/details/holiday-wine-beerand-spirits-walk-27841> for details.

December 10 Jingle Bell Run

Wear a costume or tie on bells for the morning Jingle Bell Run 5K, 1 mile, or kids' run at Green Lake Aqua Theater, West Green Lake Way N in Seattle. Walkers may bring dogs or strollers.

Visit <https://events.arthritis.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1534>.

December 15 - 17 Native Craft Fair

Shop for clothing, jewelry, woodworking, drums, and art prints at United Indians Native Art Market in Discovery Park at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle. Free.

Visit <https://unitedindians.org/native-art-market/> for details.

December Events

When to Contact an Attorney after an Accident

Even minor car accidents can feel overwhelming—and major crashes that involve significant personal injury and property damage can turn your whole life upside down. Because of the stress, confusion, pain, and anxiety of the situation, it can be tempting to make everything go away as soon as possible by simply agreeing to whatever the insurance companies offer, not trying to determine what you're owed under the law, and just getting everything over with without asking questions.

If you genuinely want to receive the compensation you legally deserve after a traffic collision that wasn't your fault, you need to speak to an experienced car accident attorney ASAP. Not only can we determine your damages accurately, but we can fight insurers and argue your claim while you focus on what's truly important: recovering from your injuries and getting back to your everyday life.

Below, we outline when it's okay to skip calling a car accident attorney, when you should pick up the phone after a wreck, and why it's better to be cautious and consult a legal professional.

The Right Time to Call a WA Car Accident Attorney

This answer is easy: as soon as possible. The more time you let pass, the greater the chance that essential details will be missed. Additionally, insurance companies will push on building a storyline that negates your claim, even if you weren't at fault. Also, remember that Washington has a statute of limitations on personal injury claims. This deadline outlines how long you have to file a claim, which is three years from the date of the incident.

The following should be your top priorities ASAP after a traffic collision.



GETTING MEDICAL ATTENTION

Your health and safety surpass everything, even getting legal help! If you were injured in an accident, go to the emergency room or urgent care as soon as you can to be evaluated and treated, even if you believe any injuries are only minor (post-accident adrenaline can trick you into thinking you feel fine). It's just as important to follow through on all appointments, treatments, medications, and therapies that medical professionals assign you.

COLLECTING INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE

After your car crash, having as much information as possible is key to arguing your case later. While at the scene, if you're not too hurt, be sure to get the names and contact information of the other drivers as well as any witnesses or responders. Also, if you're healthy enough, take pictures of the scene and any damage.

CONTACTING A LAWYER

Your third priority should be to call us! Do this before you talk to insurance companies or make any official, recorded statements about what happened. An initial conversation is always free, and can put you on the right path to getting the compensation you deserve.

Car Accidents That Don't Require an Attorney

A limited number of crashes don't require the help of an attorney. For example, if your crash meets the parameters below, you likely don't need legal help.

- You weren't injured.
- No one else at the scene was injured.
- The damage to your car and other involved vehicles is superficial or minor.
- The other party was clearly at fault and all parties agree to this fact.
- You didn't miss a significant amount of work.
- You didn't incur any significant damages from the accident.

However, even if all of the above is true, it never hurts to contact an attorney experienced in this area of law for a free consultation to make sure you have all your bases covered and can handle resolving a claim without legal help.

Car Accidents That Often Require an Attorney

So when is it necessary to have legal counsel after a traffic accident? Usually in circumstances that involve significant injuries and damages, or when there's a need to determine negligence or prove fault. So reach out for a consultation if:

- You and/or someone else in the crash were injured.
- Your loved one lost their life in the accident.
- There was serious damage done to vehicles or property at the scene.
- The insurance company denied your claim.
- An insurance adjuster is asking for a recorded statement.

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Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

MAX IS A BIG GIN GUY, SO A NICE HOLIDAY COCKTAIL FEATURING GIN IS HIS JAM. THE EGG WHITE SCARES SOME FOLKS, BUT JUST TRY IT. IT MAY JUST BLOW YOUR MIND!

Ingredients:

- 2 oz gin
- .75 oz lemon juice
- .75 oz cranberry juice
- 4 dashes Angostura bitters
- 1 egg white
- Cloves

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a shaker tin, add ice, shake and strain into a martini type glass. Garnish with a single clove.





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This newsletter is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, insurance claims and small business issues. It is not intended as legal advice. Every case is different. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.



Referrals from family, friends, and clients are the highest compliment we can receive. We thank you for trusting us with your closest friends and loved ones.

When to Contact an Attorney after an Accident

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- Fault isn't crystal clear.
- You missed a significant amount of work and income because of the incident.
- You experienced other damages in the accident that may be difficult to calculate.
- You suffered injuries that are likely permanent.

Even if you believe you're being treated fairly in this situation, our Team at Max Meyers Law can verify that you're getting everything you deserve—and on a reasonable timeline. We can also look at the evidence and calculate your damages accurately as someone who is on your side and on your team.

If you aren't sure if you need an attorney in the wake of your accident, simply request a free consultation. At Max Meyers Law, our legal team listens to your story and examines the facts, then will let you know if you'll benefit from legal representation or if you can handle the process yourself with good results. Give us a call at **425.276.7804** or visit **www.maxmeyerslaw.com** and fill out a contact form.



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