



MAX MEYERS LAW **SPOKE & WHEEL**



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More Crashes in All Types of Vehicle Related Accidents- What's Going On?

Have you seen the repeated news stories about how various types of vehicle accidents are up in 2022? Car accident fatalities are up 26% in the last two years. Pedestrian fatality accidents were up 30% in 2021. So what is going on?

The consensus is that during the pandemic shut down people got used to driving much faster than normal since fewer cars, pedestrians, and motorcycles were out on the roads. Fast forward to 2022 when everything has opened up again and traffic volumes have return to close to pre-pandemic levels. However, many drivers have not slowed down. As a result there are many more high-speed collisions, which naturally lead to more serious injuries and/or fatalities in those collisions.

high speeds with distractions like cell phone conversations or texting, you have the recipe for a bad outcome.

I have also noticed drivers seem to be much more aggressive or impatient. Road rage incidents seem to also be up. In my opinion we are still seeing the effects of the pandemic on people's mental state. People seem quick to anger and only care about themselves. Again, a recipe for bad outcome when driving a large vehicle.

WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

First - slow down on the roads when there's other traffic around.

Second - drive defensively as much as possible.

Third - don't invite or escalated any situation. If you're cut off, just let it go and remain calm.

Lastly - protect yourself with adequate UIM insurance coverage.

When times are tough (like now with high inflation) people cut back where they can, which often means buying less insurance coverage. **NOW more than ever you need to cover yourself** because we are seeing other drivers simply are not.

Be patient and drive safe!



We have seen this in our practice here at Max Meyers Law. When people call us now it is common for the accident to involve high speeds. When you combine



FREE INSTANT DOWNLOAD

Discover the secrets insurance companies don't want you to know.

Get Max's book **The Ultimate Guide to Bicycle Accident Cases in Washington: Bicycle Accident Secrets Unlocked.**

Go to our website WashingtonBicycleBook.com to get your free download now or call **425.276.7804** to have a copy mailed to you.

We've Gone Paperless with MML Spoke & Wheel Newsletter

For many years now we've been mailing our firm's newsletter out to everyone. We also have emailed it to you if we had your email address. The pandemic supply shortages continue to haunt many industries, one of which is the paper industry. Getting our newsletter printed in a timely fashion has been difficult during this time.

Additionally, we are trying to be more environmentally friendly and moving as much as we can to paperless avenues of communication. We have done so with our client files, which are mostly paperless now.

Now we are doing it in our marketing and outreach efforts as well. You still get the same great newsletter just in your email inbox from now on.

We're happy to hear any feedback on this change. If you have comments about this change please feel free to email us at info@maxmeyerslaw.com.



"Why do you say we should go paperless?"

NATIONAL S'MORES DAY



is August 10th!

Max Meyers Law VIP Program



Become a VIP Member today and take advantage of our great benefits!

Email us at info@maxmeyerslaw.com or visit our website at MaxMeyersLawVIP.com!

August 4 - 6 Shakespeare in the Park

Bring a blanket or chair, and even a picnic to eat while watching GreenStage perform either a full-length play by Shakespeare (Henry V or Pericles) or an abbreviated version (Macbeth or Much Ado About Nothing) in a park. Cost is Free.

Visit www.greenstage.org for details, locations and schedule.

August 5 Seafair Weekend Festival

Seafair Weekend Festival features hydroplanes racing on Lake Washington, the Blue Angels flying overhead in the Boeing Air Show, and classic cars parked on the lakeshore.

Visit www.seafair.org for details.

August 5 South Lake Union Block Party

Food from neighborhood eateries, beer/wine garden, local music and kids' activities.

Visit www.slublockparty.com for details.

August 14 Kirkland Car Show

See hundreds of classic cars and motorcycles, and shop from vendors and food trucks on the streets surrounding Kirkland Downtown Association, 400 Urban Plaza in Kirkland. Free.

Visit www.kirklanddowntown.org/events/car-show for details.

August 18 - 21 Emerald City Comic Con

A giant comic book, game, and popular-culture event that encourages attendees to wear costumes. Children younger than age 16 require a guardian. Located at Washington State Convention Center in Seattle.

Visit www.emeraldcitycomiccon.com for details and schedule.

August 25 - 30 & Sept 1 - 5 Evergreen State Fair in Monroe

Meet farm animals, watch pigs race, eat fair food, see monster trucks, visit the carnival, and catch a show at the Evergreen State Fair, which is located at Evergreen State Fairgrounds, 11405 179th Ave. SE in Monroe. Cost is \$10-15

Visit www.evergreenfair.org for details.



August Events

TIMELINE FOR SETTLING A SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENT CASE?

Truck accident claims can pose unexpected difficulties, especially if they involve serious injuries and multiple defendants. While you should never have to wait to receive compensation for an accident that was not your fault, insurance negotiations and litigation can be a time-consuming process. Although you could receive a settlement offer in a matter of weeks, your case's timeline will likely depend on an assortment of other circumstances, including the at-fault party's willingness to admit liability and agree to a fair resolution.

An experienced Washington semi-truck accident attorney can help you resolve your claim quickly. However, you should be skeptical of anyone who promises a settlement check within a matter of days, weeks, or even months.

THE TIMELINE FOR TYPICAL SEMI-TRUCK INJURY SETTLEMENTS

Nobody — not even an experienced lawyer — can tell you how long it will take to settle your claim.

Every personal injury case is different. In general, semi-truck-related litigation takes longer to resolve than automobile-related lawsuits. Before you can receive a settlement, you must still:

- File an accident report in accordance with Washington state law.
- Notify the trucking company and its insurer of your claim.
- Document your accident-related injuries.
- Provide evidence of the semi-truck driver and trucking company's negligence.
- File an insurance claim or personal injury lawsuit.

- Negotiate a settlement, or prepare for a court trial if negotiations fail.

WHY SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENTS TAKE LONGER TO RESOLVE THAN CAR CRASHES

Even though semi-truck companies are required by law to purchase and maintain high-limit liability policies, insurance agencies are still for-profit enterprises. Consequently, insurance companies are usually more concerned about their profit margins than an accident victim's physical and financial well-being. Even if the semi-truck driver or their employer was clearly at fault, the insurance adjuster might still try to devalue your settlement by challenging your treatment or arguing over the costs of your long-term care.



Your best chance of a good and fair recovery is when you have an experienced, competent attorney advocating for your rights. Without legal counsel, the defendants and their insurers are unlikely to take your claim seriously. They could present you with unfair settlement offers or try to use your own words against you. Even if you are clearly entitled to compensation, they might still try

to wear you down, asking for never-ending documentary evidence and disputing your calculation for compensatory damages.

WHAT INFLUENCES THE DURATION OF A SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENT CLAIM

While there is no "average" time to settle a semi-truck accident claim, your case could be affected by:

- **How fast you act.** Washington affords every resident the right to file an insurance claim or personal injury lawsuit after a serious semi-truck-related accident. However, the state also has a strict statute of limitations. If you wait too long to take action, the statute of limitations could prevent you from securing compensation, even if you had an otherwise open-and-shut case.

- **The quality of available evidence.** Insurance companies will not usually negotiate high-value settlements in the absence of compelling evidence. Even if you were unable to take photographs of the accident site or speak to law enforcement after the crash, an experienced semi-truck attorney could help you investigate the cause and circumstances of your accident.

- **The extent of your injuries.** Semi-truck companies and their insurance carriers are usually less likely to offer "easy" settlements if you sustained serious injuries, like a lost limb or irreversible cognitive damage that require expensive medical treatment and long-term care.

- **The number of potential defendants.** Unlike some conventional automobile accidents, semi-truck related lawsuits usually involve multiple defendants. You might have to file separate claims against the semi-truck driver,

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Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

ALMOND JOY COOKIES

Ingredients:

- 1 - 14 ounce bag sweetened flaked coconut
- 2/3 cup salted roasted almonds, lightly chopped
- 1 - 14 ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

Directions:

Preheat oven to 325F. Prepare cookie sheets by lining with parchment paper. In a large mixing bowl, combine the coconut, sweetened condensed milk, chopped almonds, and chocolate chips.

Scoop the cookie dough into small mounds on the prepared cookie sheets. Wet your hands with water and then shape the mounds into round cookies and slightly flatten the tops of each cookie.

Bake at 325F for 12 - 14 minutes until golden brown around the edges. Cool the cookies on a baking sheet before serving. Enjoy!



Photo and recipe courtesy of kitchenfunwithmy3sons.com



MAX MEYERS LAW^{PLC}

Where Accident Victims Get Help

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER



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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.

TIMELINE FOR SETTLING A SEMI-TRUCK ACCIDENT CASE?

cont. from page 3.

the trucking company, and even an automotive parts maker. Max Meyers Law could help you determine who should bear the costs associated with your legal recovery.

• Whether you hire a lawyer. Insurance companies often recommend that claimants negotiate a settlement independently, saying that a lawyer will "only make things more difficult." However, research has shown — time and time again — that semi-truck crash victims who have lawyers are more likely to both successfully settle their claim and receive more compensation than victims who do not have an attorney.

Your best chance of a good and fair recovery is when you have an experienced, competent attorney advocating for your rights. Please give us a call today, for a free, no-obligation consultation at 425.276.7804.

What Clients are Saying about the MML Team...

Where do I even begin... when tragedy struck LITERALLY and the unthinkable happened as we were taken by surprise by a motorist who desired our lane of travel forcing my Husband to lay us down on the bike at nice speed of 60mph! When other well advertised companies (I will forego mentioning any names) turned a shoulder to our aid... Max and company didn't bat an eye and helped us feel rest assured that we would be taken care of 100%! And we were MORE than pleased with the entire process from start to finish, every step of the way they fought for us and led to the BEST possible outcome!

Without Max and his amazing team we not only would have surely lost our case, we would have had a surplus of debt to go along with the loss of our beloved motorcycle! If you need help with a case that seems hopeless, look no further!!! Max knows his stuff and will NOT let his clients be bullied! We are forever grateful to have found him, when we were told by others it was just our word against theirs!

THANK YOU MAX!!!!

- Kristi Hagelin



maxmeyerslaw



maxmeyerslaw/



u/0/+MaxMeyers/posts



user/kirklandinjurylawyer



Max Meyers