



MAX MEYERS LAW **SPOKE & WHEEL**



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FREE INSTANT DOWNLOAD

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

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

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

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO OPEN AN IRA AND CONTRIBUTE FOR THE 2024 TAX YEAR!

Tax season is right around the corner!

You may be eligible to deduct contributions made to an IRA before April 15, 2025 on your 2024 taxes.

Don't wait... be sure to speak with your Financial Advisor to find out more about your options.

(If you don't have a financial advisor, we highly recommend Loren Winter at Edward Jones in Kirkland)



Spring Forward THIS MONTH!



Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour Sunday, March 9th for Daylight Savings.

And say hello to Spring! First day of Spring is officially Thursday, March 20th.

What Our Clients Are Saying

"Max and his team were such a huge help with my car accident. Super easy to work with and stayed on top of everything and was great at communicating.

10/10!

Highly recommend having him on your side if you're dealing with a car accident situation."

- Elizabeth Olson



Max Meyers Law VIP Program

Become a VIP Member and take advantage of some amazing benefits!

Email us at info@maxmeyerslaw.com for more information, or visit our website at MaxMeyersLawVIP.com!



March Events

March 6 - 9 Emerald City Comicon

Emerald City Comic Con is a giant "comics, anime, gaming, entertainment, and pop culture event" that encourages attendees to wear costumes. Located at Washington State Convention Center, 705 Pike St. in Seattle. Tickets online.

For more details, visit www.emeraldcitycomiccon.com/.

March 16 St. Patrick's Day Parade

Parade includes Irish bands, pipers, dancers, and marchers going north on 4th Avenue (from Jefferson Street to Westlake Park).

Visit <https://irishclub.org/event/st-patricks-day-parade/> for details.

March 14 - 16 43rd Annual Quilt Show - Monroe

Quilters Anonymous Annual Quilt Show at Evergreen State Fairgrounds, 14405 179th Ave. SE in Monroe. Admire 500 quilts, see demonstrations, and shop from vendors.

Visit <https://www.quiltersanonymous.org/page-18401> for details.

March 16 The Grand Tasting - Seattle

A \$109 ticket to The grand Tasting includes 200+ wineries and bites from 75+ restaurants. Lumen Field Event Center, 21+ & No pets.

Visit <https://www.tastewashington.org/the-grand-tasting/> for more information.



What happens if you were partially at fault in your accident?

If you're hurt in an accident, you may be entitled to compensation from the negligent party who caused it. But what happens if you were partially at fault for the incident, or the insurance company accuses you of this when it's not true?



Fortunately, you may still be entitled to substantial damages because our state follows the pure comparative negligence rule. At Max Meyers Law, we handle different types of Washington personal injury accidents, from car, truck, and motorcycle crashes to child injuries and wrongful death incidents. We have numerous strategies to put the law on your side and help you stand up for your rights.

What Must You Prove in a Washington Personal Injury Claim?

If you're seeking compensation in a personal injury case, you must prove all the elements of a personal injury claim. Understanding what you need to build a winning case is important. Here's what must be demonstrated:

- **Duty.** You must first show that the responsible

party owed you a duty of care. In personal injury cases, this is often relatively easy to establish.

- **Breach of duty.** You must also establish that the liable party neglected their duty to you by acting wrongfully or failing to take actions they knew or should have known were necessary.

- **Causation.** The next element to prove in a personal injury claim is that the other party's negligence caused your accident and injuries.

- **Damages.** Finally, there must be evidence that you incurred financial losses and noneconomic losses, such as emotional trauma, as a result of the accident.

What's Pure Comparative Negligence in Washington?

Comparative negligence rules apply when more than one party is responsible for causing a personal injury accident. Laws vary by state regarding what happens when a victim is partially responsible for their injuries. There are three comparative fault rules followed in the United States:

- **Contributory negligence.** This is the harshest comparative fault rule and is only followed by a few states. Under this doctrine, a victim wouldn't be entitled to compensation if they're even 1% to blame for causing the accident.

- **Comparative negligence.** In states that follow a comparative negligence law, a victim is entitled to damages as long as they're not 50% or 51% percent at fault, depending on the

state. However, the compensation they would receive is reduced by their percentage of fault.

- **Pure comparative negligence.** Washington is one of a few states that follows the pure comparative negligence rule. This law allows you to recover damages even if you were 50% or more to blame for the incident. However, your settlement would be reduced by your percentage of blame for causing the accident.

How does pure comparative negligence work in a personal injury claim? Let's assume you were found to be 30% negligent for causing your car accident, and your total damages are \$300,000. The amount you could recover in a settlement would be reduced by \$90,000. But you would still be entitled to \$210,000—a substantial sum.

6 Steps to Protect Your Personal Injury Case If the Pure Comparative Negligence Rule Applies

The first thing to realize is that you might not be all to blame for the incident. Just because you're worried you did something wrong or an insurance company accuses you of negligence doesn't mean it's true. It's vital to take the following steps to protect your rights when the pure comparative negligence rule applies to your case.

1. Report the Accident

Reporting the incident immediately helps establish that it occurred and caused your injuries. If you were in a motor vehicle

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Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

Irish Soda Bread

We do love Irish soda bread. Break out those pandemic baking skills and give this a try!

Ingredients:

- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons granulated sugar, divided (optional)
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 3 Tbsp. butter, diced and chilled
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 Tbsp. melted butter
- 1 1/2 cups Raisins, currants, or mini chocolate chips (optional)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease an ovenproof 10" skillet with cooking spray and line the bottom with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, 1/4 cup sugar, baking soda and salt. Using a pastry cutter, or your hands, work in the butter until it's evenly incorporated.

In a separate medium bowl, combine buttermilk and egg. Add to the dry ingredients and stir until just combined. Do not over mix! Fold in

raisins, currants, or mini chocolate chips, if using.

Place dough in skillet and score an "X" on top with a sharp knife. Brush with melted butter and sprinkle with remaining sugar, if using. Bake until golden, or until a toothpick comes out clean, 45 to 55 minutes. When you tap the loaf, it should sound hollow. Cool at least 10 minutes before slicing and serving.





MAX MEYERS LAW^{PLLC}

Where Accident Victims Get Help



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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.

What happens if you were partially at fault in your accident?

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collision, contact the police and order a copy of the police report. In other personal injury situations, notify the property or business owner or other negligent party of your accident in writing and keep a copy of this notice for your records.

2. Get Prompt Medical Care

Prioritize your health right after the accident. A physician should examine you within 72 hours of the incident—even if you don't think you were hurt. You could have suffered a severe medical problem such as traumatic brain injury, internal bleeding, or a spinal injury and not realize it until days or weeks later.

You'll protect your health and recover more quickly if you get the medical treatments you need. In addition, these actions help you combat arguments by an insurance adjuster about the severity of your injuries or their cause.

3. Get Contact Information

Obtain the contact information for the negligent party, their insurance company, and any eyewitnesses. Be sure to get their name, address, phone number, and email address.

4. Gather Evidence

Start collecting evidence right after your personal injury accident. Information that helps our legal team prove your case includes:

- Photos and video of the accident scene, vehicle damage if you were involved in a car accident, and your injuries
- Police or accident report
- Your clothes, kept in the same condition as after the incident
- Eyewitness contact information
- Medical bills and records
- Paystubs
- Insurance policies

5. Limit What You Say to Insurance Company

You should be very careful what you say to an adjuster if you think you were partially to blame for causing the accident or if they're wrongfully claiming this. The insurer may misconstrue even innocent statements such as "I'm sorry" or "I wish I hadn't done that" as an admission that you were partially at fault. **DO NOT give a recorded statement to the other driver's insurance company!!**

6. Consult With an Attorney

If the pure comparative negligence rule applies in your case, contact Max Meyers Law immediately. Be honest about how you believe the personal injury accident occurred and your worries, if any, that you were negligent to some degree. If the insurance company falsely accuses you of being to blame, we need to know this, too. If we know all the facts up front, we're better prepared to establish your case.

Call **425.276.7804** for a free consultation.



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