

A Personal Injury Law Firm

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DAMAGES CAN GO WAY BEYOND

pain and suffering

If you've been injured in a car or truck wreck, there's no question that pain and suffering are some of the most serious harms you may have to endure. These are the injuries that affect your quality of life and the very essence of who you are. But, many people don't realize the myriad other ways a serious accident can impact their lives.

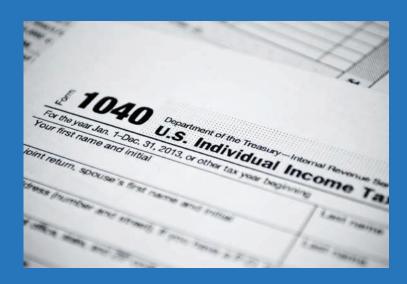
The following list, while not exhaustive or complete, is designed to give you an idea about some of the different types of damages that may be available to you (in addition to pain and suffering) if you suffer injuries as a result of someone else's negligence in a motor vehicle wreck:

- Past, current, and future medical bills
- Lost wages (past, present, and future) and loss of employment
- Emotional distress
- Impairment of bodily health and vigor
- Disfigurement
- Wrongful death; the financial assessment reflects both economic losses and non-economic losses
- Property damage
- Aggravation of a pre-existing injury
- Funeral expenses
- Punitive damages
- Loss of consortium
- Interference with normal living
- Loss of enjoyment of life
- Confinement actual and/or a fear of future confinement
- Lifetime limits on activities
- Injury to peace, happiness, or feelings



As you can see from this list, it is vitally important that you receive a comprehensive evaluation to determine the injuries and harm you've sustained after an accident. Your lawyer will use this information to help him or her decide what would constitute a fair and full settlement and jury verdict with respect to the injuries you have suffered.

If you have questions about potential damages, please call our office to speak with one of our accident attorneys.



did you know?

The first U.S income tax was signed into law by President Lincoln in 1862 in order to help pay for the cost of the Civil War. The law levied a three percent tax on incomes between \$600 and \$10,000, and a five percent tax on incomes greater than \$10,000. By 1867, public opposition to the income tax persuaded Congress to cut the tax rate. Interestingly, between 1868 and 1913 (when our current income tax system was signed into law), 90 percent of all revenue came from taxes on liquor, beer, wine and tobacco.

AFTER AN AUTO ACCIDENT.

keep your priorities straight

If you suffer injuries as a result of a car accident, healthcare providers will play a key role by helping you try to achieve a quick full recovery and establish recoverable damages.

However, your health and recovery has got to be priority number one. Do not manage your recovery with an eye toward a potential future financial settlement.



Base your decision on selection of healthcare providers and how often you need to see them on medical condition only. Arranging more visits than necessary will not bolster a settlement down the road.

Be up front on everything with your doctor. He/she needs an accurate health history from you. Prior accidents and serious injuries need to be disclosed. Withholding this information will hamper your doctor's ability to make a sound diagnosis and solid recommendations. Rest assured the insurance company already has this information.

Don't distort the facts of your case. Don't tell your doctor your car was totaled, for effect, when in reality it had a mere scratch on the bumper. Your doctor doesn't need surprises on the witness stand. And it puts your credibility in doubt—never a good thing.

Don't exaggerate your symptoms either. Make sure your doctor fully understands your current symptoms, but don't embellish. Not only will that impede your treatment, it also stands to embarrass you if you are caught on videotape doing a bunch of things that may contradict with what you told your doctor.

Make sure to follow through on your doctor's recommendations. Keep all your appointments and take all your medications. Follow your doctor's orders! A full recovery should be your first and foremost concern, not a future financial settlement.





According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, distracted driving can be broken down into three main types of distraction - visual (in which you take your eyes off the road), manual (in which you take your hands off the wheel), and **cognitive** (in which you take your mind off what you are doing).

While any type of distraction while you are driving can be dangerous, what makes driving while texting especially problematic is that it involves all three main types of distractions.

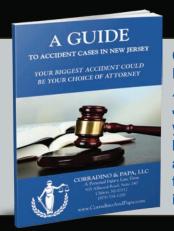
Statistics show that around 20 percent of all crashes involve some type of distraction, and in 2008, nearly 6,000 people were killed in collisions involving a distracted driver.

And even though many states have banned or are considering bans on texting while driving, it is up to drivers themselves to use common sense. When you're behind the wheel, put the phone down entirely, or if you absolutely have to send a text, pull over to a safe area on the side of the road or into a parking lot.

If you or a family member has been injured in an accident caused by a distracted driver, you should contact an experienced personal injury attorney.



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FREE BOOK

Get Jack Corradino and Robert Papa's New Ultimate Guide to Accident Cases in NJ, written by Jack and RC. It will explain "Why your biggest accident could be your choice of attorney", and what to do in the event you are injured.

Quote of the Month: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." –Mark Twain

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

AUTO ACCIDENTS AND

traumatic brain injuries

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are responsible for the deaths of approximately 50,000 Americans each year and the hospitalizations of roughly 230,000 more. Many more victims go undiagnosed.

Auto accidents are one of the leading causes of TBI. Most TBIs are closed head injuries, which means that trauma sets the brain in motion inside the skull. The brain gets slammed against the interior surface of the skull, resulting in contusions and swelling.

Trauma can also initiate rotational forces that twist and stretch the brain, which can damage axons. Brain neurons send messages via electrical impulses; axons are the carriers of these impulses. When axons are damaged, brain function is diminished.

A condition called diffuse axonal injury (DAI) occurs on a cellular level and leaves blood vessels and major brain structures intact. This type of damage cannot be detected by MRIs or CT scans, making DAI vastly underdiagnosed and undertreated.

Brain injuries are unlike injuries to other parts of the body. They not only have a physical component, they also affect the

cognitive and emotional well-being of the victim. Impairments can be temporary or permanent, subtle or catastrophic.

It's important to note that low-impact auto accidents can result in TBI (e.g., concussion due to whiplash), not just high-impact ones. In addition, a person involved in a car crash may feel perfectly normal immediately following the incident; however, TBI symptoms might only present themselves hours, days, or weeks later.

If you have been involved in a car accident caused by the negligence of another driver, schedule a medical evaluation and contact an auto accident attorney to protect your rights.

