



Corradino & Papa

A Personal Injury Law Firm

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WHEN DEER AND VEHICLES cross paths

Vehicle collisions with deer can happen any time of year, but the risk is greater from October through December. Deer are on the move during that stretch, as hunting season is in full swing, and bucks relentlessly pursue does during mating season.

According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics for 2021, nationally there were approximately 1 million car accidents involving deer, roughly 10,000 people suffered injury, and 200 lost their lives. No state is immune.

Keep the following in mind to minimize bad deer-vehicle encounters:

- Deer travel in groups. When you see one, there's a good chance others are nearby.
- Don't expect deer standing in the road to move. It takes time for their eyes to adjust from near-total darkness to the blinding light of headlights, so they freeze — like a “deer caught in the headlights.”
- “Deer Crossing” signs are posted at areas with a past history of deer-car incidents. Slow down, heighten your awareness, and utilize your high beams whenever possible, which will illuminate twice the distance of your low beams.
- Deer are most active at dusk (nightfall to 9 p.m.) and dawn.
- Frequently, when a deer suddenly bolts onto the road and into your path, it's safer to just hit it rather than swerve to avoid it. Swerving could place you in the path of oncoming traffic (with possibly devastating results ... for which you will be at fault) or cause you to lose control and plow into something off the road more hazardous than a deer (e.g., a tree).
- Prioritize vehicle maintenance. Properly maintained headlights, brakes, and windshield wipers will help you avoid deer-vehicle dustups. ■



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WHEN SEASONS LEAVE

drivers in the dark

In late fall and early winter, the amount of daylight greatly diminishes, thanks to Earth's journey around the sun, orbital planes, spin axis, and other matters of science. Bottom line, if we need to drive in the evening, it's going to be dark, which heightens the risk of auto accidents.

At night, limited visibility, compromised depth perception, reduced color/contrast recognition, and glare from oncoming headlights can make driving an unwelcome adventure. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 25 percent of driving is done at night, but night driving accounts for 50 percent of traffic fatalities.

We can't control Earth's orbit, but we're not powerless. Vehicularly speaking, make sure your headlights are aimed correctly. Fix any scratches in the windshield, as scratches can worsen glare. Mirrors, wiper fluid, and windshield wipers should be properly maintained. Keep the windshield, headlights, and mirrors clean. Dashboard lights that are too bright can be briefly disorienting when glancing at them — dim them if needed.

While driving after nightfall, slow down and increase your following distance, since reaction times are adversely affected.

Annual eye exams are important at any age (or as often as your doctor recommends). An outdated eyeglass prescription doesn't do anyone any good, and once a person hits age 60, cataracts and other degenerative eye conditions can worsen night vision. For some, night driving may not be advisable.

Don't add to night-vision woes with distracted driving, impaired driving (which encompasses alcohol and illegal, prescription, and over-the-counter drugs), or lack of sleep.

In darkness or light, a driver is responsible for their actions. If you are injured by a negligent driver, contact [Corradino & Papa](#) to protect your rights. ■

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origins of veterans day

World War I was ignited on June 28, 1914, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (and his wife), the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, by a Serbian nationalist. Austria-Hungary blamed the Serbian government and requested German military support. Serbia sought Russia's help. The war was on.

President Woodrow Wilson pledged U.S. neutrality. However, economic/financial interests; Germany's indiscriminate sinking of passenger and merchant ships, many of which carried Americans; and a proposed secret alliance between Germany and Mexico (the "Zimmerman Telegram") forced his hand.

The United States entered the battle in April 1917.

Fast-forward to November 11, 1918. An armistice was signed to end the fighting — the Treaty of Versailles made it official seven months later. The Allied forces (Russia, France, Great Britain, United States, etc.) had emerged victorious over the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey, etc.). The war exacted a heavy toll: over 8 million soldiers killed, nearly 38 million wounded (military and civilian).

President Wilson proclaimed November 11 "Armistice Day" in 1919, a day to reflect on the heroism of Americans who served in the conflict and to express gratitude for the victory. Armistice Day became a legal holiday in 1938.

But the "war to end all wars" moniker was wishful thinking. In 1954, following World War II and the Korean War, Congress changed Armistice Day to "Veterans Day" to honor all veterans (wartime and peacetime) for their service, not just World War I vets.

The date of Veterans Day was messed with by Congress for a seven-year stretch in the 1970s with the whole long-weekend thing. However, after veterans and many state legislatures voiced their displeasure, November 11 again became a fixture in 1978.

To all U.S. veterans, thank you for your service! ■

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spotlight of the month



The Selvaggio Family has a strong belief in rescuing animals. Adopt don't shop is one of our family slogans. Storm (grey cockatiel) and Sunny (white cockatiel) were found outside and were taken to Teterboro Animal Shelter. My son Nico always wanted a bird so we went to the shelter and found these two beauties that had to be together when adopted. And here they are 6 years later. They are now 8 years old. Storm is our singer and a quick learner. Sunny is the love of his life and he sings to her all the time. ■

factors impacting A PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM'S VALUE

Many factors can affect a personal injury claim's value — some obvious, some not so obvious. Here are a few that could come into play:

- How severe are your injuries?
- Will you need ongoing (perhaps lifetime) medical care?
- Will future earnings be impacted, including pension and retirement benefits?
- Were you partially at fault for the accident?
- Did you delay medical treatment for injuries or fail to follow your doctor's treatment recommendations?



The true value of your case will only crystallize once you've reached maximum medical improvement. A mistake some people make is to handle their personal injury claim on their own and rush into a settlement. Some injuries don't fully reveal themselves for weeks or more. If you've already settled, compensation for future, related medical developments goes out the window.

Not all types of compensation are equally quantifiable. Property damage and medical bills are fairly straightforward. Pain and suffering, loss of enjoyment of activities/hobbies, and impact on a plaintiff's relationship with their spouse ("loss of consortium") are not.

If a plaintiff is deemed partially responsible for their injuries, that will be reflected in their settlement amount — for instance, 10% responsibility equals a 10% reduction in compensation ("comparative negligence"). In a handful of states, even 1% plaintiff responsibility may disqualify them from receiving any compensation ("contributory negligence").

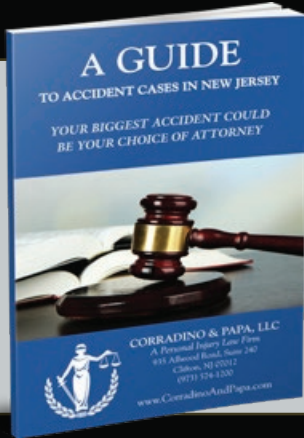
If an at-fault party's action or inaction was particularly egregious, a plaintiff may be awarded punitive damages on top of compensatory damages. Punitive damages are meant to be a monetary gut punch to the defendant to deter similar conduct in the future.

If you've been injured due to negligence, contact **Corradino & Papa** for the thoughtful, knowledgeable guidance you need to attain rightful compensation. ■

November 2022 – Mark Your Calendars

Nov. 1 — Authors Day Nov. 6 — Daylight saving time ends Nov. 8 — Election Day Nov. 11 — Veterans Day
Nov. 14 — Pickle Day Nov. 24 — Thanksgiving Nov. 25 — Black Friday

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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.

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Auto Accident
Slip and Falls
Dog Bite
Premises Liability
Work Accidents
Workers' Compensation
Medical Malpractice
Construction Accidents
Motor Vehicle Accidents
Product Liability
Wrongful Death
PIP Arbitration

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.

TLC

(THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER CASSEROLE)

Servings: 8; prep time: 20 min. + standing; bake: 65 min.

There are always Thanksgiving leftovers. Put them to good use with this recipe!

Ingredients

- 4 cups seasoned stuffing cubes
- 4 cups cubed cooked turkey
- 2 celery ribs, finely chopped
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped sweet onion
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 large eggs
- 3 cups 2% milk
- 1 can (8-1/4 ounces) cream-style corn
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/3 cup coarsely chopped pecans

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Layer first 6 ingredients in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish. In a large bowl, whisk flour, eggs, and milk until smooth. Add corn, salt, and pepper; mix well. Pour over top; let stand 15 minutes. Dot with butter and sprinkle with pecans.
2. Cover and bake 35 minutes. Uncover and bake 30–35 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

Nutrition facts: 1-1/2 cups: 415 calories, 15 g fat (5 g saturated fat), 173 mg cholesterol, 768 mg sodium, 38 g carbohydrates (9 g sugar, 4 g fiber), 32 g protein. Diabetic exchanges: 3 lean meat, 2-1/2 starch, 1-1/2 fat.

Recipe courtesy of www.tasteofhome.com. ■

