

# Motorcyclists Face Many Hazards on the Road

## *Motorcycle Safety Awareness Calls Attention to Hazards on the Road*

Every May, Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month focuses on keeping riders safe on the road. It is a good idea for both drivers and bikers to refresh their knowledge of safety precautions. Motorcycle riders are more vulnerable on the road as they are 28 times more likely to die than car occupants in an accident.

## **Drivers of All Vehicles Should Be Careful**

With the start of summer, many bikers are out to enjoy the warm temperatures and beautiful weather. Drivers need to use extreme caution when they are close to a motorcycle on the street. While drivers on the road need to be more cautious, it is also the responsibility of motorcyclist to take some safety precautions as well. With distracted driving becoming a more significant issue, the risk of sustaining a severe injury is much higher. Motorcyclists should always obey the helmet laws and sign up for formal safety training to reduce their risk of injury or death while riding.

## **Common Causes of a Motorcycle Accident**

It is important to understand the conditions that often lead to a motorcycle accident. In certain situations, some accidents are unavoidable. However, most riders can spot a dangerous situation and avoid them to reduce their risk of an accident. Some of the most common causes of severe motorcycle accidents include:

- **Left-hand turns:** Many motorcycle collisions are the result of a car making a left-hand turn at the intersection. In most cases, the driver does not see the motorcycle traveling through the intersection. These accidents can often cause severe injuries since they usually involve a head-on collision between a car and a motorcycle.
- **Lane splitting:** This accident is usually the fault of an impatient motorcyclist. Lane splitting is driving between the two lanes, and many motorcycle riders will do this to avoid traffic and get ahead of the cars. While this can be a safe way to avoid getting rear-ended on the bike, some riders are reckless and can cause accidents with this type of driving maneuver.

- **Driving while intoxicated:** Motorcycles can be difficult to drive even when you are sober. You need your full attention on the road and the bike to remain safe. When you add alcohol to the mix, you are putting everyone on the road at risk. In 2016, 30% of all motorcycle fatalities involved alcohol. When you are hitting the road, you need to stay sober on your bike.

- **Road hazards:** Every motorcyclist needs to be aware of the hazards on the road. Uneven lanes, potholes and other obstructions might not cause issues for a car, but a motorcycle can lose control from the slightest hazard in the street.

It is essential for all truck and car drivers to pay attention to motorcycles on the road. At the same time, motorcyclists also need to take precautions when driving with the flow of traffic on busy streets and highways.

### **Safety Tips for Every Motorcyclist on the Road**

Responsible driving is the best method to avoid a motorcycle accident. There are several basic safety measures that every rider should utilize. Before you take to the road on a motorcycle, remember to:

- Make sure your bike is properly maintained, and conduct routine safety checks.
- Always wear safety gear, including a helmet.
- Never drive in inclement weather.
- Always drive defensively, especially in high traffic locations.
- Always use your turn signals while on the road.
- Never operate a motorcycle if you are tired or have consumed alcohol.

### **Contact a Motorcycle Injury Lawyer**

A severe motorcycle accident can have a negative impact on the rest of your life. When another driver's negligence caused the accident, you can seek compensation for your injuries. However, it is important to hire the right motorcycle injury attorney in NJ for your case. At Law 4 Hogs, we can help guide you through the legal process. Contact us at 1-800-LAW-4-HOGS to schedule a consultation. We have offices throughout New Jersey to serve motorcyclists.