

Personal Injury Lawyer Talks Distracted Driving and its Impact on Auto Accidents

Any distraction while driving can endanger your safety as well as others, leaving the potential for accidents. Craig A. Altman, Attorney discusses the issue.

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The number of accidents where personal injuries occur is many times caused by drivers being distracted. The rate of these accidents is climbing to an alarming number. How dangerous is distracted driving? Let's find out:

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Approximately 16% of all car accidents are caused by distracted driving. It is important to contact an auto accident attorney to learn your rights if you fall victim to a distracted driving accident.”
Craig A. Altman

What exactly is distracted driving?

According to the CDC distracted driving is when a driver takes his eye off the road for a period of time. There are three main types of distractions:

Visual – When you take your eyes off the road for a few seconds.

Manual – When you take your hands off the wheel.

Cognitive – When you take your mind off driving.

Activities such as typing a text message while driving, talking on the phone, eating or drinking while driving are some examples of distracted driving. Any kind of distraction while driving can endanger yours as well as others. Sending texts while driving is considered the most dangerous form of distracted driving as it involves all three types of distractions (visual, manual and cognitive)

A study performed by Virginia Tech Transportation Institute evaluated the driver risks by a comparative model. They compared sober, alert and attentive behavior to that of a distracted driver. Internal vehicle videos were used in 3500 drivers all over the US for a 3 year period. The devices used in the vehicles were able to trace location and speed of the drivers.

The research evaluated more than 900 crashes that were responsible for property damage, injury or both. According to the evaluated results, 75% of the crashes were because of an error and of that 68% was because of distracted driving. This is scary because you can be a victim of a distracted driver. You should contact an [auto accident lawyer](#) if you were a victim of distracted driving.

Who is at a risk?

According to the CDC, young adults and teens account for the highest number of distracted driving deaths. Young adults and teen send the highest number of text messages and a lot of times this is done while driving. It has been observed that students:

- Were more likely to drink and drive

- Were more likely to drive with a drunken driver

- Were less likely to wear a seatbelt while driving

- Measures to prevent distracted driving

-Most people are guilty of distracted driving at some point. Long drives are especially problematic. People get comfortable and are complacent about the risks involved in driving. You think it is OK to say a quick word on the phone or send a quick text meaning you are now distracted.

Here are a few quick reminders or tips you can reinstate.

Getting involved: If you are a parent, then you must talk to your teenage kids about the risks involved in distracted driving. You can have them sign a pledge to drive distraction free.

As a teen, you must take the pledge and also advise your peers and friends about the risks of distracted driving. If you see any of your friends driving and texting then advise them of the risks they are putting themselves and others in.

Laws: Most states have implemented laws that does not allow you to drive and text or to talk on the phone while driving. In fact, on September 30, 2009, Ex-President Barack Obama had issued an order that prevented federal employees from texting while driving when on Government business or with government equipment.

Taking responsibility: Even though there are laws that govern distracted driving most people tend to forget the risks of distracted driving. Hence as an individual, you have to make sure you stay focused while driving and not get distracted.

If you have to take a call, then pull over and use your phone. Try to avoid eating and drinking while driving. Nothing is more important than the work at hand.

If you or your loved one has been a victim of distracted driving, then you should contact an [auto accident attorney](#) immediately. An auto accident lawyer can help you navigate through the complex process of filing a claim and make sure that you get what you rightly deserve. The Law Offices of Craig A. Altman can help you with your auto accident case. Contact us today at 215-569-4488 for more information!

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