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## From our Office

We have big news to share! For decades, our main office has been located on East New York Street. But over the years, we've outgrown the space. We are excited to announce that we have moved into a new office space just one block north, at 429 E. Vermont Street, Suite 200. This new space allows our entire team to be together, and we look forward to continuing to serve your disability and personal injury legal needs in our new office!

Our big news does not stop there. In addition to our new space, we have a new attorney joining our team! Michael "Mike" Phelps started working at the firm in June, and is focusing on personal injury and wrongful death cases. He has been practicing law in Indiana for over 20 years, and his resume speaks for itself! He has tried well over 100 jury trials as lead counsel and co-counsel in both State and Federal Courts across Indiana. Some of his notable verdicts include:

- ▶ Wrongful Death Verdict of \$157,000,000
- ▶ Auto Negligence Verdicts of \$26,000,000, \$5,600,000, \$3,000,000 and \$1,250,000
- ▶ Products Liability Verdict of \$8,000,000
- ▶ Slip-and-Fall Verdicts of \$4,000,000 and \$800,000.

We are excited to have Mike join our team. To learn more about him, and read his full bio, go to our website at [HankeyLaw.com](http://HankeyLaw.com).

Now that summer is here, we've been able to get back to our Keep Indianapolis Beautiful efforts in cleaning up the blocks around our office. Our community engagement team also ran a book drive, collecting over 250 books for Indy Book Project! We also sponsored WISH TV's GR8 Pasta Push for the third time and were able to collect an additional 264 boxes of pasta to donate to Second Helpings.

While warm weather brings a lot of opportunities for outdoor activities, it also unfortunately is prime time for outdoor injuries, like bicycle accidents and dog bites. Whether on a bike or on a walk, always be aware of your surroundings. Still, no matter how careful we try to be, accidents can happen—a dog can get off its leash, or a driver may not be paying attention. If you or a loved one are injured by the negligence of someone else, call us for a free consultation.

When life changes, we are here for you.

*-Ashley & Stacy*



## Practice Areas

With 80 years of combined experience, both in and out of the courtroom, the legal professionals of the Hankey Law Office can resolve cases involving:

- |                                  |                                   |                           |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Disability Claims (SSDI/SSI)     | Motorcycle Accidents              | Brain/Head Injuries       |
| Federal Court Appeals            | Bicycle Accidents                 | Spinal Injuries           |
| Long & Short Term Disability     | Railroad Crossing/Train Accidents | Dog Bites /Animal Attacks |
| ERISA Litigation                 | Highway Defects                   | Child Injuries            |
| Personal Injury & Wrongful Death | Dangerous Drugs & Devices         | Construction Accidents    |
| Car Accidents                    | Premises Liability                | Burn Injuries             |
| Truck Accidents                  | Product Liability                 | Drowning                  |



# Can I File a Lawsuit for a Red or Yellow Light Auto Accident?

Did a red-light runner hit your car? Unfortunately, 28% of deadly crashes at stop light intersections are caused by distracted or impatient drivers running red lights. Can you file a lawsuit if you were in a red or yellow light car collision?

## Filing a Personal Injury Claim for a Traffic Light Accident

In a red-light car crash it's immediately apparent that the driver who ran the red light is at fault. If you were hit by another driver who ran a red light and you sustained physical injuries, medical expenses or damage to your vehicle, you may be entitled to compensation.

To learn if you can file a personal injury claim you'll need to provide:

- ▶ A police report
- ▶ Bills for medical treatment related to the crash
- ▶ Evidence of property damage, preferably at the scene of the accident
- ▶ Communication with your insurance provider regarding claim handling

If you have hefty medical expenses and your insurer only covered a small amount of your injury claim, call us for legal advice.

## Who's Liable?

To win a case against a red-light or yellow light runner you need to prove they were liable. You could receive compensation if:

- ▶ The driver sped up, rather than slowed down, as they were approaching a yellow light
- ▶ The driver rolled through the traffic light instead of coming to a complete stop
- ▶ The driver didn't yield the right of way while turning at an intersection
- ▶ The driver ran a red light because they were distracted

If you were the victim of a red or yellow light car accident contact our office today. Our legal team is here to help.

# Summer Word Search

E C I X W C S G J F Y Y C  
W A I U I A N E B E A C H  
C M Q N Q I T O L P P A L  
P P C K P K S E Z C C U V  
D I P E S Q Z L R H Y J N  
P F E Q R M C P O O L C M  
F L B B A G S S W I M M I  
S I H R N M V Z S T A O B  
Z P R I B O A R D Z S F R  
T V V E B X V E R N L A U  
S I U Z W R U P R O J X S  
D N A E C O V Z P C A W L  
K Z F U B I C Y C L E S D  
K Q H S E L C I S P O P E  
S K R O W E R I F G G A R

BAGS  
BEACH  
BICYCLES  
BOARD  
BOATS  
CAMP  
OCEAN  
PICNIC  
POOL  
POPSICLES  
DIVING  
FIREWORKS  
SWIM  
WATER

# When Should You Go to the Hospital After a Car Accident?

Being involved in a car crash can be a terrifying ordeal. When should you seek medical treatment after an auto accident? Here's everything you need to know.

## Should I Go to the Hospital After a Car Crash?

It's in your best interest to see a doctor after a car collision. Even if you have no serious injuries and feel fine, you should go to an emergency room, urgent care clinic or doctor as soon as possible.

If you don't, your health and finances could be at risk. Some injuries may not appear right away. However, hidden injuries can be just as severe as burns or bruises. A few injuries that are not easily detected without a medical professional assessing your situation include:

- ▶ Strains or sprains
- ▶ Internal organ damage
- ▶ Internal bleeding
- ▶ Concussions

To protect your well-being always seek immediate medical attention after a car crash.

## Should I Go to the ER or Urgent Care Clinic?

For a life-threatening or serious injury you should always go to an emergency room as soon as possible. Severe burns, breathing problems and major broken bones should be treated at the ER.

For injuries or symptoms that are less severe seek help at an urgent care clinic.

When filing a personal injury lawsuit, it is crucial that you sought medical attention right after the accident occurred. This will increase your chances of getting the compensation you need and deserve. If you or someone you know has been involved in an auto accident call our office for a free consultation.

# Pineapple Angel Food Cake



## Ingredients:

- ▶ 1 (16 ounce) package angel food cake mix
- ▶ 1 (20 ounce) can crushed pineapple with juice
- ▶ 1 (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed

## Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Spray a 9x13 inch pan with vegetable oil spray.

In a large bowl, combine cake mix and pineapple (with juice). Mix until well blended.

Pour batter into prepared 9x13 inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 25 minutes or until golden brown. Let cool.

Serve with whipped topping

# Who is Liable for an Uneven Sidewalk Accident?

An uneven sidewalk may not seem like a big deal until you trip on it. Tripping accidents from cracked or uneven sidewalks can cause back injuries, knee injuries, cuts, bruises and even head or brain trauma. In extreme circumstances, the victim may even experience permanent or life-threatening injuries.

But who is responsible for uneven sidewalk accidents? The answer may surprise you.

## Who's to Blame?

The person who is liable for an uneven sidewalk accident depends on where it's located. In some cases negligent property owners are to blame for accidents caused by uneven sidewalks. In other cases city governments or municipalities are responsible. Sometimes, more than one entity can be liable.

If a sidewalk is on privately-owned property, such as a house, the property owner is responsible for maintaining their premises. This puts them at fault for injuries caused by an uneven sidewalk. If the sidewalk is public property, the local government or a business might be responsible. In all scenarios you may be able to recover compensation for your tripping accident.

## Can I File a Personal Injury Lawsuit for an Uneven Sidewalk Accident?

If you tripped on an uneven sidewalk and suffered injuries you might be entitled to compensation.

No matter what type of injury you sustain, you shouldn't be left with hefty medical bills because of someone else's negligence.

To learn more, contact our office today. Our consultations are free, and we are only paid when we win your claim.

# Do You Really Need Uninsured Motorist Coverage?

What would happen if you were hit by a driver who didn't have insurance? You'd probably be stuck footing the bill for vehicle damage and medical expenses caused by them. However, uninsured motorist coverage can help you cover these bills.

Should you get uninsured motorist coverage and what does it include? Here's everything you need to know.

## What is Uninsured Motorist Coverage?

Uninsured motorist coverage will help cover the repair costs and medical expenses when an uninsured driver causes an auto collision. Also called UM coverage, uninsured motorist coverage kicks in when another driver is responsible for damage to your health or vehicle and they don't have the insurance to cover the bills.

There are two types of uninsured motorist coverage: uninsured motorist bodily injury coverage (UMBI) and uninsured motorist property damage coverage (UMPD). UMBI covers your pain and suffering, medical expenses and lost wages after a car crash. It will also cover these costs for any passengers in your vehicle at the time of the crash. UMPD pays for vehicle repair costs or other property damage caused by an uninsured driver.

Uninsured motorist coverage should not be confused with underinsured motorist coverage. While they both cover the same expenses after a crash, uninsured motorist coverage pays out after an accident with an at-fault uninsured driver. Underinsured motorist coverage is reserved for accidents with an at-fault driver who has insurance but not enough to cover all of the costs.

## Should You Get Uninsured Motorist Coverage?

It is a smart idea to purchase uninsured motorist coverage. This coverage is more affordable than other types of insurance and can save you thousands in medical and property damage fees.

# Why You Should File a Police Report After an Accident

Many people wrongly assume that they don't need to file a police report after a minor vehicle accident. Minor or major, a police report is very important to file after any accident if there is a chance you are going to pursue compensation. What may seem like a minor injury or minor vehicle damage at the time can end up being much more serious (and expensive).

A police report provides an unbiased view of what happened. Having this documentation makes any insurance claim easier and is vital if a lawsuit is filed. Filing a police report is important for the at-fault driver as well. It can provide protection against any exaggerated or faked injury claims. A normal police report will include the date, time and location of the accident. It will detail damage to the vehicle(s) as well as any injuries. It will also contain statements by those involved and any witnesses.

To file a report, call the police and cooperate with the officer who responds by answering all questions to the best of your ability. Make sure to get a copy of the report to send to your insurance provider. If you are in an auto accident and have any questions about how to best pursue fair compensation, call our office to schedule a free consultation.



## Referrals

The greatest compliment  
we can receive is the  
referral of a family  
member or friend.



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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for professional legal advice. For your specific situation, please call the appropriate legal professional.

# How to Teach Your Child to Safely Interact with Animals

It's a fact – kids love animals! Whether it's their tiny pet hamster or a cartoon lion they saw on TV, children are naturally drawn to animals. That's why it's important to teach your kids how to safely interact with animals from a very young age. This ensures both your child and the animal stay safe.

**Here are three easy ways to teach your youngsters how to stay safe around animals.**

### 1. Always Ask an Owner Before They Pet a Dog

Not all people love dogs, just as not all dogs love people. This may be because of poor socialization or past abuse. To protect your child from a potential dog bite, teach them to say hello to the owner before they say hello to their dog. Educate them on the importance of asking an owner if their dog is friendly before they approach the animal to pet it.

### 2. Never Approach Wild or Stray Animals

While a fox or racoon may look cute and cuddly, they are actually wild animals that could harm your children. Tell your kids that it's never safe to approach or pet stray or wild animals, even if it's a stray kitten. These animals could bite, scratch or even be diseased.

### 3. Give Them Pet Responsibilities

If your child is old enough, consider giving them some pet-related responsibilities. These can include feeding the dog or grooming the cat. Always supervise your kids and show them the proper ways to feed, pet, walk and play with their pets.

Animal safety begins at home. To prevent your kids or pets from getting injured, teach your children how to interact with animals properly. If you or a family member has been injured by someone's pet, call our office. We are here to help.

