



The
**CZACK
LAW FIRM**
Right Firm • Right Time • Right Result



Friends of the Firm
Newsletter

Summer 2019



Michael W. Czack, Esq.

**WE TAKE
(AND REALLY APPRECIATE)
NEW CASE REFERRALS**

As you've heard me say before, we get new injury cases the old-fashioned way—we earn them! Our tracking data shows that past and current clients refer 90 percent of the new injury and death cases we take in every year.

I bring this up because people often ask me, "Do you take new case referrals?" or "Is it OK if I give my neighbor who was in a crash your number?" The answer is always the same: "Yes, we absolutely do, and thank you so much for thinking of our firm."

Remember to tell the prospective client that it costs them nothing to call me to ask questions. People appreciate the opportunity to simply hear what to expect after an accident without being pressured, so please give them our number.

Being the best advocate possible oftentimes requires a lawyer to think "outside the box" to help a client with a complicated legal situation. We share some of these very gratifying instances with you in our Friends of the Firm Newsletter in a column we call **Outside the Box**.

OUTSIDE THE BOX

Outside the Box lawyering doesn't always work the first time, or the second. But in order to solve problems for our clients, trial lawyers do not fear failure and are relentless in fighting for their clients.

For example, the number of cases we see involving high-speed, rear-end crashes in the middle of the day on a straight and level road continues to increase. Why? Distracted driving!

When a new client comes in with such a situation, we aggressively pursue information about the at-fault driver's cellular carrier and number. If we can prove that distracted driving caused the crash, there is a possibility of seeking punitive damages, which would have to be paid personally by the driver, over and above what their auto insurance company pays our client.

Sometimes the distracted driver causes very serious injuries and doesn't have enough insurance to pay the full value of our client's damages. In those situations, we expand our investigation to see who was distracting the at-fault driver. Did the person sending text messages to the at-fault driver know they were driving while reading and responding to the text messages? If so, going after that person's insurance policy comes into play. We have tried this "outside the box" strategy on a few occasions, only to come up just short on the connection—but we're getting closer, so rest assured we'll continue to vigorously pursue this strategy for our clients.



The Czack Law Firm
Personal Injury Law Exclusively

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*We aggressively
protect the rights
of our clients!*

Dog Bites Are Serious Business

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4.5 million Americans are bitten by dogs every year.

Dog bites and attacks are most common in spring and summer and can result in disfiguring scars, infections, fractures, or many other types of injuries. In Ohio, dog owners are generally found to be strictly liable for the injuries caused by their pets. These damages are usually covered by the pet owner's homeowner's or renter's insurance policy.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a dog or other animal bite or attack, call **The Czack Law Firm** at **(216) 696-9216** or email me at **mczack@czacklaw.com**.



WATCH OUT FOR MOTORCYCLES!

As warmer weather finally arrives here in Northeast Ohio, we will see an increase in the frequency of motorcycles sharing the roadways with other drivers. Make our roads safer for everyone by reading and remembering the following:

➡ TIPS FOR DRIVERS

- A motorcycle is a vehicle with all of the rights and privileges of any other motor vehicle on the roadway. Always allow a motorcyclist the full lane width—never try to share a lane.
- Always make a visual check for motorcycles by checking mirrors and blind spots before entering or leaving a lane of traffic and at intersections.
- Always signal your intentions before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- Don't be fooled by a flashing turn signal on a motorcycle—motorcycle signals are often not self-canceling, and riders

sometimes forget to turn them off. Wait to be sure the motorcycle is going to turn before you proceed.

- Remember that road conditions that are minor annoyances to other vehicles sometimes pose major hazards to motorcyclists.
- Allow more following distance, three or four seconds, when following a motorcycle so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency. And don't tailgate. In dry conditions, motorcycles can stop more quickly than cars.

➡ RIDING SMART

Motorcyclists have responsibilities, too: following the rules of the roadway, being alert to other drivers, and always wearing protective gear.

"Ride **S.M.A.R.T.**" stands for riding "Sober," "Motorcycle endorsed," "Alert," with the "Right equipment," and "Trained."



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Thanks for the referrals!

WARNING

1 in 5 Ohio Drivers Are UNINSURED

Immediately pull out your auto insurance declaration page to be sure you and your family are protected by uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage. If not, call your agent and get this protection in place now. Remember that your "coverage limit" amounts are as important as the multitude of different types of coverages the insurance company sells you.

If you have questions about your automobile or homeowner's insurance coverage, give us a call at (216) 696-9216 or email me at mczack@czacklaw.com.

