

Both sidewalks and crosswalks dangerous for New York City pedestrians

Written by Australian Business

September 27, 2013 /**24-7PressRelease**/ -- As the seasons change, cooler weather returns and children head back to school. This brings New Yorkers out of their homes and onto the public sidewalks and streets. Unfortunately, too many of those walking to school or work suffer serious injuries in [New York City pedestrian accidents](#) every year.

This school year started with a serious crash that seriously injured three teens on their way to school in Queens. A driver attempting to park hit the accelerator rather than the break. The car jumped the curb and hit the startled teens from behind. Even tourists to New York City are subject to pedestrian accidents. A midtown accident recently occurred when a taxicab lost control of his car, jumped the curb and hit a tourist. The tourist ended up losing her leg. Driver distraction caused by an argument with a cyclist may have been partly to blame.

In July 2013, more than 800 pedestrians were injured in New York City. Twelve died from their injuries. As New York City Accident Lawyers, we understand the toll being struck by a car takes on your lives.

Crosswalk accidents account for the largest share of pedestrian accidents

Not all accidents occur on the public sidewalks. A study of those treated for injuries sustained in pedestrian accidents found most victims were in crosswalks walking with a signal when struck. Researchers obtained data through victim self-reporting, along with medical records and witness and first responder accounts. The report backed up the need for more traffic-calming measures and pedestrian plazas.

Many pedestrians crossing with the walk signal fail to look for vehicles that might be entering an intersection. A car or truck driver racing to make a left-hand turn before a light changes may not look for a pedestrian in the crosswalk. When the pedestrian assumes that the walk signal guarantees safety and does not look over his or her shoulder a serious left-hand turn accident can result. Luckily, the law imposes the duty on drivers to yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully in a crosswalk.

A [taxicab accident](#) can easily occur if a driver turns right into a crosswalk while distracted by an argument. A driver making a U-turn to grab a prime parking spot may also cause an accident. Empty Taxis are the most dangerous, because some drivers will do just about anything to secure a paying rider, including running over a pedestrian. When on foot, it is

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always best to be on the defensive. But many of the scenarios cannot be anticipated. That is why it is important to contact a New York City pedestrian accident lawyer right away.

Causation and remedies

Uncovering what caused an accident can be a challenging. Reviewing the cellphone history of a bus driver may uncover that he or she was texting as the accident occurred. In other cases, it could be a vehicle malfunction, such as a sticky accelerator pedal. Occasionally, a driver will claim that a pedestrian ran out in front of traffic. Eyewitness accounts may be needed to prove that was not the case. That is why it is important to ensure that you tell a responding police officer what happened so he can properly document the cause of the accident in his report.

Following an injury caused by a negligent driver, the automobile insurance for the offending vehicle will often pay for the injured person's medical bills and lost wages. A non-economic damage award may be available to cover your pain and suffering. In the most terrible cases, when a loved one dies in an accident, a wrongful death claim may be necessary. We can help you figure out your best options and guide you accordingly.

Walking is often the easiest way to get around New York City. But a pedestrian accident can change your life in an instant. An experienced New York City personal injury attorney can discuss available remedies with you, and ensure that the negligent driver is held accountable. Let us represent you so we can deal with the legal headaches, and give you the peace of mind to concentrate on getting better.

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