

THE WARREN REPORT

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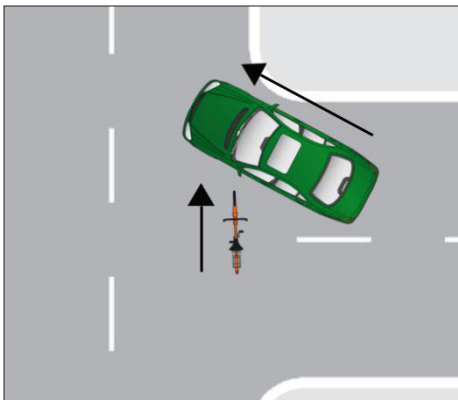
May 2021

BIKE SAFELY THIS SUMMER!

Avoid these common accidents

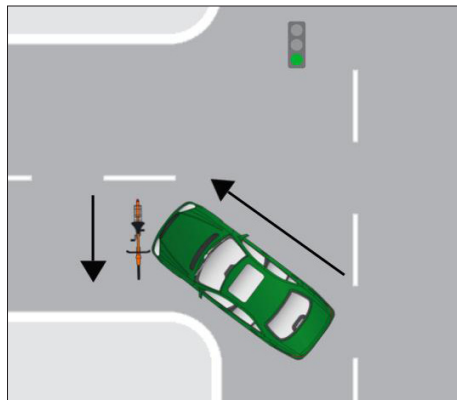


The weather is getting warmer and you may be dusting off your bike for some fun in the sun. Since cyclists have little safety protection other than their helmets, accidents with a bike can often lead to serious injuries. These accidents commonly occur in the following situations:



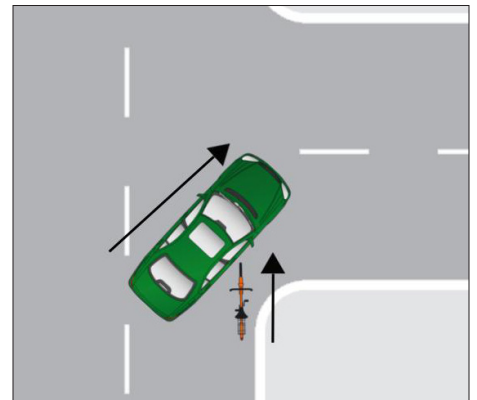
Right Pull Out

This is one of the most common types of collisions involving Virginia cyclists. The accident occurs when the cyclist goes through an intersection at the same time that a car that pulls out from another street, driveway, or parking lot, to the right of the cyclist. The cyclist is either hit on the right side by the front of the car or the cyclist hits the driver's side of the car.



Left Turn

The cyclist is heading in the opposite direction towards an oncoming car. The car makes a left hand turn directly in front of the bike either hitting the cyclist or causing the cyclist to slam into the car.



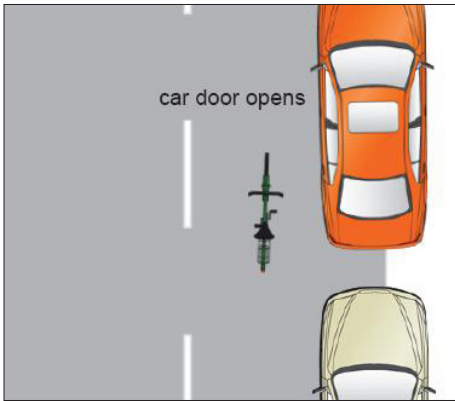
Right Hook

A car passes to the left of the cyclist and then makes a right turn in front of the cyclist. The cyclist is then either hit by the car or cannot avoid hitting the car. This type of accident occurs not only when a car is turning onto a road, but also into parking lots and driveways.



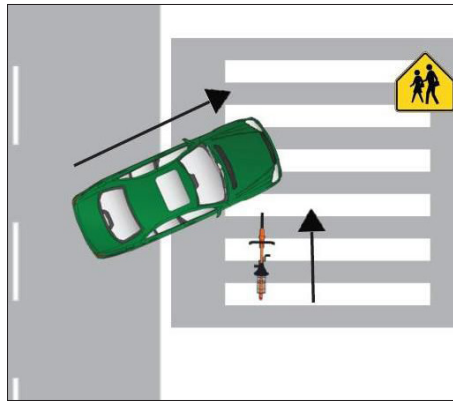
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Bike Safely (*continued*)



Door Jam

This happens when a cyclist is traveling on the right side of the road – the correct side – along a street that has cars parked on the right side of the road. Meanwhile, a driver in one of the parked cars does not look in the side view mirror and opens the door. If the opened door is too close to the cyclist, the cyclist does not have time to react and he hits the door.



Crosswalk

This accident happens when a cyclist is sidewalk riding and attempts to cross a street at the crosswalk at the same time that a car makes a right-hand turn. This either leads to the cyclist being hit by the car or the cyclist slamming into the car. This occurs because cars are often not expecting cyclists to be at the crosswalk, even though it is perfectly permissible for them to be there.



Be mindful of these situations while you're out riding! Always ride on the right-hand side of the road, keep an eye on cars while crossing intersections and side roads, and slow down while approaching parked cars in case someone opens their door! Stay safe and enjoy the season!

Important Note

Virginia courts operate under a pure contributory negligence standard. This means that if an injured cyclist is found to be partially at fault for the accident, he or she will be unable to recover compensation for damages. Insurance companies rely heavily on this law in bicycle cases to try to show some fault on the part of a cyclist. We recommend discussing liability with an attorney early on to be able to effectively combat this defense.

New Laws

Effective July 1, 2021, new legislation in Virginia requires motorists to change lanes when passing bicyclists if the lane isn't wide enough to pass at least three feet to the left. Part of the legislation also allows bicyclists to now ride two abreast in a lane at all times.



MEMORIAL DAY

*** REMEMBER AND HONOR ***

Happy Memorial Day from The Warren Firm!

We'd like take a moment to honor the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Together we salute our fallen service members and give thanks. We wish you a beautiful Memorial Day weekend.

2021 Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Convention



In March, I attended the 2021 Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Convention at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. My week kicked off with a board meeting in the bunker at Greenbrier. This previously classified Cold War Era bunker was for the U.S. House of Representatives to stay and meet in case of a nuclear attack. The bunker, which was built 720 feet into the hillside under The Greenbrier's West Virginia Wing, remained a secret for more than three decades. We met in the exact room where The House of Representatives would have met.

At the convention, I was elected to the executive board as one of the vice presidents. It will be my fourth year now serving in this capacity and it's been a great experience as I strongly believe in the VTLA's mission. It's a voluntary bar association that's dedicated to enhancing the knowledge, skills and professionalism of trial lawyers. It's also committed to improving the law and the fairness of Virginia's system of justice.



The once top-secret emergency meeting room for the U.S. House of Representatives, located in the bunker at the Greenbrier. A similar room was built for the Senate.

Shout It from the Rooftops!



As many of you know, The Warren Firm does not advertise on television. We rely on referrals from past clients and from other attorneys for the new clients who we represent. We appreciate and thank you for your continued referrals.

If you know someone who would like to receive our newsletter or information package, please let us know and we will be glad to send them the information requested. If you need a lawyer in another practice area, contact us and we will gladly put you in good hands.

TESTIMONIAL

The Warren Firm did a great job for a personal injury case we had in the family. Vaden always kept me up to date on the progress of the case. Ultimately, we settled out of court and we were very pleased with the settlement. -B. Shell.

**We focus our practice on
cases involving:
Personal Injury
Wrongful Death
Children's Injuries
Bicycle Accidents
Auto Accidents**



Vaden
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