

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

January 20th, 2026



New Attorney!



Ricky Parks

Ricky joined our team this past week as our newest attorney! Ricky earned his bachelor's degree in history from Maryville University and his law degree from Washburn University. He is admitted to practice in the state of Missouri. During his time at Maryville University, Ricky was awarded a scholarship to

Law which cemented his vision for the future to be a practitioner of the law.

Learn more about Ricky here!

Law Blog Highlight

8 Life-Saving Tips for Teen Drivers to Prevent Car Accidents (2026 Guide)

1. Inexperience Is the Biggest Risk Factor

The single greatest danger for teen drivers is lack of experience. New drivers are still learning how to judge speed, recognize hazards, and react quickly to unexpected situations. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) notes that crash rates are highest during the first months of independent driving and decline as experience increases ([IIHS](#)).

What teens should know:

- **Confidence behind the wheel should grow slowly.**
- **Defensive driving, anticipating mistakes by others, is essential.**
- **Asking for more supervised practice is a strength, not a weakness.**

Parents can help by gradually increasing driving privileges and continuing to practice challenging scenarios like highway driving, night driving, and bad weather.

Teens

Speeding plays a major role in teen crashes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that speeding was a factor in nearly *one-third of fatal crashes involving teen drivers* ([NHTSA](#)).

Teens often underestimate how much speed affects stopping distance and crash severity. Even driving just 10 mph over the limit can turn a minor mistake into a life-altering collision.

Key reminders for teen drivers:

- **Speed limits are set for ideal conditions, not rain, traffic, or darkness.**
- **Slowing down gives you more time to react.**
- **Arriving a few minutes late is always better than not arriving at all.**

3. Distracted Driving Can Be Deadly

Distracted driving is more than just a bad habit; it's a leading cause of wrongful death and serious injury. Whether it's texting while driving, using social media apps, or adjusting the GPS, taking your eyes off the road for even five seconds is like driving the length of a football field blindfolded (NHTSA).

Teen drivers are particularly vulnerable to digital distractions because of constant phone use and social pressure to respond immediately.

Teens should commit to:

- **Putting phones on “Do Not Disturb” mode while driving.**
- **Using navigation and music settings before the car moves.**
- **Never texting, snapping, or scrolling behind the wheel.**

Many states have strict laws banning handheld phone use by drivers, and violations can lead to fines, license suspension, or worse if a crash occurs.

[Read More Here!](#)

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Tip of the Week...



Prepare for Emergencies: Have a plan in place for emergencies, including knowing who to contact and what documents to have ready.



"If you are working on something that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you."
– Steve Jobs

www.waramjoolawfirm.com

...Quote of the Week

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

Here to Help!

We fight for families harmed by other's negligence. If you or someone you know has been seriously injured, we're here to help.



Free Consultation

We appreciate you!

Thank you for interacting with us. If you feel inclined, please leave up a review!

Leave a Review!



Subscribe

Past Issues

[View email in browser](#)

Translate ▼

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)