

Electronic Newsletter

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Happy Thanksgiving from the Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck



Our firm wishes you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. We hope you are able to share the day with family and friends, and enjoy all the happiness and blessings life has to offer. Please know we are grateful for your continued trust and confidence.

Study: Teen Passenger Risk Increases While Driving Deaths Drop



While the number of fatalities from traffic incidents has been decreasing over the last decade, a study released by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) shows that the fatal crash risk for teens with passengers has grown during that same decade. The report presents national data on fatal crashes in which teens (age 13-17) were present. The report's researchers then compared patterns for novice drivers with young adult drivers (age 18-24) to come up with a "relative risk index." TTI found that the risk for novice drivers with a single teen passenger increased over the last 10 years from 3.7 to 5.1 (so drivers in 2011 were more than five times more likely to have a fatal crash as compared to young adult drivers). When novice drivers carry two or more passengers, the "teen passenger fatal crash connection" was 7.7, up from 5.9 just 10 years ago (or almost eight times as likely to experience a fatal crash incident as compared to young adults). The report's authors said there are

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Recall Central

To read about recent recalls and product safety news from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, click [here](#).

Get the latest recall information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration [here](#).

The Dept. of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service regulate meat, poultry products and processed eggs. Check their recalls [here](#).

Click [here](#) for Food and Drug Administration recalls, market withdrawals and safety alerts.

For updates on the peanut products recall click [here](#).

Want More Distracted Driving News?



Check out the

many reasons for this increase, including the overall lack of experience, the learning curve associated with driving, the lack of understanding the consequences of these fatal crashes, and distracted driving behaviors. Read [more](#).

Why Can't Drivers Stop Checking Their Phones?



Drive for long enough in America, and you're bound to see someone texting behind the wheel. Most people already know they shouldn't do it. One federal survey showed that 94% of Americans think it should be illegal to text while driving. Yet they persist. It seems clear something powerful is at work, overriding people's knowledge that what they're doing behind the wheel is dangerous. To figure out what that something might be, psychology and

communications researchers around the world have started studying what exactly is happening in our heads when we reach for a phone in the car. What their research so far suggests is that texting and driving is unlike any public safety issue we've dealt with before. It's not like the judgment error of drinking too much and deciding to drive home anyway; it's not like neglecting to put on your seat belt. That's because at the center of the problem, the experts say, is an entirely new kind of object-the modern smartphone-that has become embedded in our consciousness in a way that's changing our behavior on a massive scale. More [here](#).

New Study May Vastly Improve Driving Safety

Drivers cause or contribute to more than 90% of collisions, according to transportation safety experts. But what we don't know, exactly, is what happens in the moments leading up to a crash. Questions like what drivers do just before a collision, and how they react to cues from their vehicle and the surrounding environment, are largely a mystery. A new study could help answer questions like that, revolutionizing our understanding of how motorists interact with their vehicles and the road. Researchers have equipped more than 3,100 cars nationwide with a slew of sensors and tools designed to capture a bounty of data about driving and behavior. Researchers are also collecting detailed roadway data in the six communities where driver data is being gathered, with the plan to use the two sets of data to get information not just on how humans interact with vehicles, but on how the condition and shape of roadways influence their behavior. Read [more](#).

About Our Firm



At [The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck](#), justice is our mission. Our firm is well known and well respected for its ability to handle personal injury, wrongful death, and professional

malpractice cases in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Call today or visit us on the web at www.stephenreck.com.

The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck, LLC

Proud to support the [North Stonington Education Foundation](#), [Little League Baseball](#), [Children International](#), [Heifer International](#), the [Avalonia Land Conservancy](#), and the [Conn. Chapter of the Special Olympics](#).

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[Distracted Driving News from Safe Roads Alliance and the Distraction Advocate Network.](#)

Don't Drive Distracted! It Kills



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The trial attorneys at The Law Firm of Stephen M. Reck, LLC represent individuals in all types of personal injury cases throughout the state of Connecticut and the state of Rhode Island, including, in Connecticut: New London County, New Haven County, Middlesex County, Hartford County, Tolland County, and Windham County; and in Rhode Island: Bristol County, Kent County, Newport County, Providence County, and Washington County.

Referrals Welcome

Have You Tried the Wired Bean Cafe Yet?

North Stonington's Coolest Gathering Spot



The [Wired Bean Cafe](#), located in the front of our building next to the Wellness Center, serves coffee, tea, espresso, cappuccino, muffins, cookies, pies, soups, sandwiches, and more. Free wifi, comfortable seating, and a friendly staff. If you haven't tried them yet, go soon!

Remember we are here if you need a referral to an attorney in a different area of law.

