AFTER A CRASH

The first hour

1. **Call 911.** Ask for police and EMS, and make sure an official report is made, even if you feel fine.
2. **Save your footage.** Stop your Garmin, camera or ride app and save the file. Back it up as soon as you can. Don't reset or record over it.
3. **Photograph everything.** The vehicle, its plate, the scene, your bike, your injuries and the road.
4. **Get names.** Driver, insurance, witnesses and the officer's name and report number.
5. **Get checked.** See a doctor the same day. Some injuries, like concussions, show up later.
6. **Keep your gear.** Don't repair or throw away your bike, helmet, kit or computer. They're evidence.
7. **Don't give a statement.** Don't give a recorded statement to the driver's insurer before talking to a lawyer.

Then call us: 877-878-7584.

HURT ON A RIDE?

Talk to a lawyer who rides.

Hall Trial Lawyers represents injured cyclists and their families. Free consultation, and no fee unless we win your injury case.

CALL DAY OR NIGHT

877-878-7584

halltrials.com

Scan for this guide online, plus guides for North Carolina, South Carolina and Illinois.

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PROTECTING THE PELOTON®

Know Your Lane

Georgia

A rider's guide to Georgia cycling laws, and what to do in the first hour after a crash.

HALL | TRIAL LAWYERS

Bicycle Advocacy · Injury Law · Immigration Law

GEORGIA LAW

The laws that protect you

Three feet, or change lanes
Drivers approaching a cyclist must change lanes when it is safe to do so. If they can't, they must slow down and pass with at least 3 feet of space (O.C.G.A. § 40-6-56).

Bike lanes
Drivers must yield to a person riding in a bicycle lane (O.C.G.A. § 40-6-55).

Aggressive driving
Aggressive driving, including harassing or intimidating another road user, is a serious misdemeanor (O.C.G.A. § 40-6-397).

Georgia's fault rule. A rider who is less than 50% at fault can still recover, with damages reduced by the rider's share of fault. At 50% or more, recovery is barred.

ON THE ROAD

The rules you ride by

Lights at night
A white front light visible from 300 feet and a red rear reflector plus a red rear light visible from 300 feet (O.C.G.A. § 40-6-296).

Helmets
Riders under 16 must wear a helmet (O.C.G.A. § 40-6-296).

Riding side by side
No more than two abreast, except on paths set aside for bicycles.

Be seen, day and night
Daytime running lights, front and rear, make you visible from much farther away.

Ride predictably
Hold your line, signal early and make eye contact at intersections.

YOUR BEST WITNESS

Ride with a camera

A rear radar light like the Garmin Varia, or a front and rear camera, warns you about cars coming up behind you and records what happened if something goes wrong.

In a North Carolina case we handled, a rider's Garmin footage showed exactly what the driver did, and it made the difference.

Keep it charged
Make cameras and lights part of your pre-ride check.

Turn on incident capture
So a crash saves the clip automatically.

Save it right away
After a close call or crash, save and back up the file.

Deadlines & insurance

Don't wait
Most injury claims must be filed within 2 years. Claims against a city can require written notice within 6 months, and against a county or the state within 12 months.

Check your own policy
Your own uninsured motorist car insurance coverage can cover you on a bike when the driver has little or no insurance.