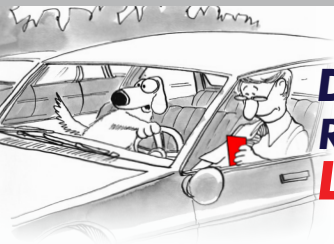


UTLEY LAW FIRM

Your Personal Injury Deserves Personal Service

■ NICK UTLEY, OWNER



DISTRACTED DRIVING + REAR-END COLLISIONS = LONG-TERM PAIN

April marks National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and it's easy to see why.

If you commute on the I-285 Perimeter or the Downtown Connector, you already know the reality: everywhere you look, drivers are staring down at their phones instead of the road. Combine this inattention with sudden stop-and-go traffic, and you get a recipe for the most common crash in Georgia: the rear-end collision.

At the Utley Law Firm, we know that a "fender bender" can be much worse than it looks at first. And unfortunately, when pain or other problems develop later, some victims have already been pressured by insurance adjusters into dropping their claims. Keep reading to learn the truth behind the "Low Property Damage" myth, and why your body takes the hit even when your car doesn't.

The Physics of the "Bumper Tap"

Insurance companies want juries to believe that cars and human bodies are made of the same material. They argue that if the metal didn't bend, the spine didn't bend.

Physics tells a different story.

Modern vehicle bumpers are engineered to withstand low-speed impacts (typically up to 5 mph) without showing visible cosmetic damage. They act like stiff springs.

The Energy Transfer

When a distracted driver hits you at 15 mph, the kinetic energy from that 4,000-pound vehicle must go somewhere.

1. If your modern bumper absorbs the hit without crumpling, it doesn't just make the energy disappear; instead, it transfers that energy directly through the frame of the car and into the seats.

2. Your car gets pushed forward abruptly. Your torso moves with the seat, but your head (weighing about 10-12 pounds) stays in place for a fraction of a second before violently whipping backward and then forward.
3. This happens in less than a quarter of a second.

This violent snapping motion can stretch and tear the delicate ligaments in your neck, cause micro-tears in your muscles, and even force the gel-like discs in your spine to bulge or herniate.

The Adrenaline Delay

Why didn't you feel it at the scene of the crash?

During a traumatic event, your body floods your system with adrenaline and endorphins, natural painkillers designed to help you survive an emergency.

This chemical shield can last for hours or even days. It's common for a victim of a rear-end crash to feel "fine" on Tuesday, only to wake up on Thursday unable to turn their neck or suffer from nerve pain in the arm.

Don't Fall for It

When an insurance adjuster tells you that your pain isn't real because your bumper isn't dented, they're ignoring medical science to protect a driver who wasn't paying attention.

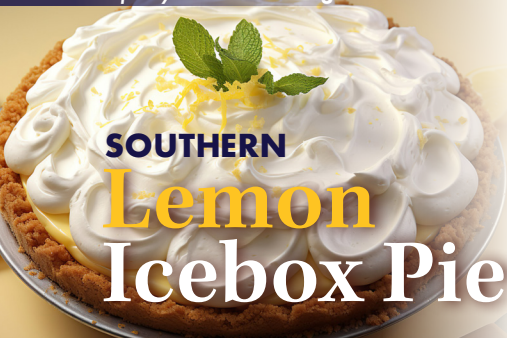
If you are involved in a rear-end collision this spring, remember:

1. Never apologize or say "I'm fine" at the scene. Stick to the facts.
2. Seek medical attention immediately. Even if you only feel a slight stiffness, a doctor can document your baseline condition before the adrenaline fully wears off.
3. Call Utley Law. Do not give a recorded statement to the at-fault driver's insurance company.

You do not need a totaled car to have a valid, serious injury claim. If you are hurting, your pain is real, and the negligent driver is responsible.

The Utley Law Firm helps auto accident victims understand their rights. **CALL (404) 831-2921 FOR A FREE CONSULTATION.**

Recipe by Southern Living



SOUTHERN Lemon Icebox Pie

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 Tbsp. lemon zest (from 2 lemons), plus more for garnish
- 3/4 cup fresh lemon juice (from 6 lemons)
- 1 homemade or store-bought graham cracker crust
- Whipped cream or frozen whipped topping, thawed, to serve

STEP 1

Prepare the pie filling: In a large bowl, combine cream cheese, sweetened condensed milk, lemon zest, and lemon juice. Using an electric mixer on medium, mix until smooth.

STEP 2

Add filling to crust: Spread into pie crust and smooth top. Refrigerate for 7 hours (or until set).

STEP 3

Add filling to crust: Once the pie is set, pull it out and top it with a layer of homemade whipped cream, and sprinkle with additional lemon zest, if using.

NO WIN, NO FEE ■ PERSONAL ATTENTION ■ FREE CONSULTATION
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS RECOVERED ■ DEDICATED TO JUSTICE



WOOF!
It's me, Gus,
your favorite
Legal Beagle!

IF SOMETHING HURTS, DON'T JUST WALK IT OFF!

As you know, I am a **very big fan of walks**. Sometimes, just hearing the word gets my tail wagging. Yet as your Canine of Counsel, I've got to warn you:

When you get hurt in an accident, you **should not ignore the pain** that follows!

I see so many people try to "shake it off" and go right back to work after an accident. That might be a good move when my fur gets wet and I want to be dry...

But it won't do you any good. After a crash, you're flooded with a chemical called **adrenaline**, which can hide pain.

- Serious injuries, like whiplash, spinal disc damage, or even concussions, might not show up for hours or even days later!

GUS'S TIPS FOR A SAFE RECOVERY:

- **Don't wait around:** If you feel stiff, dizzy, or just a little "off" the next morning, go to the doctor immediately.
- **Create a paper trail:** Going to the doctor right away proves your injury happened from the crash.
- **Call my team:** Don't let the insurance company put you in the doghouse. Call the Utley Law Firm!

A hidden injury can cause severe nerve damage and high medical bills down the road.

Give us a howl, and we'll fetch you the justice you deserve.

STAY SAFE OUT THERE!

— GUS



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Utley Law Firm, LLC

HOURS

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

UTLEY LAW FIRM

Personal Injury • Personal Service

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What Our Clients Are Saying About Us!

S.S.

I cannot say enough good things about Nick and Carolann Utley! After my car accident in late 2024, I needed an attorney to help navigate the insurance nightmare aftermath. Always professional, always reachable and always kind, Nick and Carolann were top-top-notch! Their expertise and willingness to help turned a horrific accident into a positive healing journey. And, bonus- they are truly 2 of the nicest people ever! If you need legal help, look no further. You won't find better than Nick & Carolann!

B.J.

Their service, attention to detail, and communication during the whole representation process are 10 out of 10! My family has used them on two different occasions and has had the same amazing service both times.



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