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Indiana Motorcycle Laws



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"I don't know what I would have done had it not been for Brandon. He cares about me, he cares about my family, he checks on me, and that's all I could ever ask."

- JERMAINE TEAGUE



# The Legal Scoop

An Exclusive Publication From Yosha Law

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## Indiana Motorcycle Laws

Motorcycles are a cost-effective and efficient way to get around the Indianapolis area. However, to legally ride a motorcycle in the state, bikers must meet equipment and safety gear regulations, traffic laws, and license requirements. Violations of Indiana motorcycle laws can result in fines, loss of riding privileges and could cause serious accidents. By understanding these laws, motorcyclists can improve their safety on the road and prevent devastating wrecks.

### Equipment Regulations

There are specific motorcycle equipment requirements in Indiana that ensure the safety of riders and other motorists on the road. Motorcycles are required to be equipped with the following:

- Brakes that can be operated by the hand or foot
- Rear-view mirrors, turn signals, speedometer
- At least one headlamp and no more than two, and follow Indiana visibility requirements
- Handlebars, no more than 15 inches above the seat
- Rear reflectors attached between 20 and 60 inches from the ground, and visible at night from between 100 feet and 350 feet
- Failure to have these components could make a motorbike unsafe for use, putting the motorcyclists at risk of catastrophic harm.

### Are Motorcycle Helmets Required in Indiana?

Motorcyclists in Indiana under the age of 18 are required to wear a helmet and eye protection. Residents with a motorcycle learner's permit are also required to wear helmets.

### Obtaining a Motorcycle License

Indiana residents must be at least 16 and a half years old to ride a motorcycle and obtain a motorcycle endorsement on their Indiana driver's license. A motorcycle endorsement can be obtained in two ways. Indiana residents who are at least 16 years and 90 days old must complete an approved driver education course and a motorcycle safety course authorized by Ride Safe Indiana.



Indiana residents who are at least 16 years and 270 days old must pass a knowledge test if their license has been expired for over 180 days. In addition, they must pass a motorcycle knowledge test, obtain a motorcycle learner's permit, and pass a motorcycle skills test authorized by Ride Safe Indiana.

Following the completion of these requirements, motorcyclists must also pass a vision screening or provide vision screening documentation. If you are under the age of 18, you must have a parent or guardian sign an Agreement of Financial Liability.

### Insurance Requirements for Motorcyclists

To ride a motorcycle in Indiana, you must have motorcycle insurance and show proof of insurance before registering your motorcycle. The following is the minimum requirements for liability insurance:

- \$25,000 bodily injury per person**
- \$50,000 for bodily injury per accident**
- \$25,000 for property damage per accident**

Read more at: <https://yoshalawfirm.com/blog/>



## What Constitutes a Wrongful Death Case?

Under state law, wrongful death is generally defined as the death of an individual due to another party's negligent, wrongful, or careless actions or inactions. Like in many other states, wrongful death claims are subject to certain laws that specifically govern these types of lawsuits, including the process, the available damages, and the deadline for filing such a claim.

The civil court process can be complex for individuals inexperienced in civil litigation, and cases involving an untimely death have additional requirements to meet. An experienced attorney could review your situation and determine if it constitutes a wrongful death case.

### Common Fatal Accidents

Several types of situations and events may form a basis for a wrongful death claim, including, but not limited to vehicle accidents and slip and falls, medical malpractice, or criminal offenses. It is often helpful to think of a wrongful death case as a type of personal injury lawsuit, except that the injured individual passed away and can no longer file a claim on their own. It is also important to understand that a wrongful death can occur due to someone's inaction, such as a doctor failing to properly diagnose a patient.

### How State Law Addresses Wrongful Deaths

When determining what constitutes a civil claim, it is also critical to understand how state law defines a wrongful death. Under state law, there are three different statutes relating to the specific types of wrongful death lawsuits.



### General

The general wrongful death statute provides the dependents of a deceased individual with an opportunity to recover damages. The typical damages that might be recoverable in a general wrongful death case include, but are not limited to, expenses for medical care, a funeral, and burial and lost income and future earnings of the deceased individual. If a claim is successful and compensation is awarded to the dependents, the compensation first goes to the deceased individual's estate to pay for any medical or funeral costs before going to the heirs.

If a deceased individual is not a child, is unmarried, and has no children or dependents, the recoverable damages are typically the same but the loss of the deceased person's companionship and love may also be recoverable. Although additional damages are available under this wrongful death claim, the amount of compensation for these additional damages is capped at \$300,000, according to Indiana Code § 34-23-1-2.

How a Wrongful Death Attorney Could Help You?? Read more at: <https://yoshalawfirm.com/blog/>

## Our Success Stories

### \$20.3 Million

\$20,325,000 verdict against a Fortune 500 Energy Company following an electric shock injury, rendering our client permanently disabled with chronic neuropathic pain.

### \$7.5 Million

Slip and Fall case against National Car Rental. Verdict Amount \$7.5 Million Dollars, which includes \$2.5 Million in loss of services for the plaintiff's spouse. Plaintiff required a total hip replacement.

### \$5 Million

Motor Vehicle Accident. A passenger in a vehicle driven by a friend who wanted to demonstrate the speed of his new car. The driver hit a curb, and the passenger suffered a traumatic brain injury.