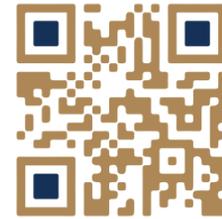


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FEATURED ARTICLE

Back-to-School Sports: Protecting Student Athletes After a Concussion



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The Legal Scoop

An Exclusive Publication From Yosha Law

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Road-Trip Ready? How Indiana's Summer Construction Zones Affect Accident Claims

Orange barrels, lane shifts, and sudden 45 mph signs are a sure sign of summer - and of accident risk. In 2024 the Indiana Department of Transportation logged 30 fatalities and 1,500 injuries in work zone crashes, most on I-465 and I-69. That spike triggered this year's Safe Zones program: automated cameras now mail \$75 to \$150 tickets to drivers caught going 11 mph or more over the posted work-zone limit.

Why it matters to your claim

- Fault can shift. If a contractor's signs are missing or a merge taper is too short, the maintenance company as well as the at-fault driver may share liability.
- Speed data speaks louder than words. Work-zone cameras and electronic message boards store speed records; we subpoena them whenever lane-configuration confusion is alleged.
- Penalties amplify damages. Indiana's Work-Zone Safety Law tacks a \$300 minimum fine onto a first speeding offense, showing juries the other driver was behaving recklessly.

Your crash-scene checklist

- Photograph every sign, cone line, and Reduced Speed Ahead notice you can see.
- Note flashing arrow boards or lane-shift markers; their settings sometimes change mid-project.
- Ask witnesses if they saw brake lights early or felt forced to merge late.
- If injuries allow, use your phone's voice memo to describe how barrels or rumble strips were placed - you may forget later.

Bottom line: construction-zone cases live and die on physical evidence. Call us before those barrels move again.



Back-to-School Sports: Protecting Student Athletes After a Concussion

Back-to-school season means helmets, pads, and two-a-days - along with a fresh round of concussion worries for parents. Indiana's Concussion Law (IC 20-34-7) requires every school to give families educational materials and to pull any athlete suspected of a head injury until a licensed health-care provider clears them.

Yet we still see schools rush kids back onto the field. Here is what families need to know:

1. The "When in doubt, sit them out" rule is mandatory. If a coach lets your child re-enter play the same day without medical sign-off, the school violates state law and potential negligence flags go up immediately.
2. Keep a paper trail from day one. Ask the trainer for written incident notes, baseline test scores, and every follow-up form. Indiana's statute grants schools some immunity once they follow the clearance protocol; gaps in the paperwork pierce that shield.
3. Watch for insurer pushback. We routinely battle arguments such as "It was just a mild bump" or "Symptoms are really ADHD." The most effective counter is early, consistent documentation: ER records, neuro-cognitive tests, and notes on missed classes or extracurriculars.
4. Look beyond football. Cheer, soccer, and girls' basketball now outpace gridiron injuries in many districts. The law covers all interscholastic sports, not just the ones with pads and helmets.
5. Damages extend to academics. Post-concussion learning issues - blurred vision, headaches, slowed processing - can depress GPA and scholarships. Indiana juries increasingly award for tutoring costs and lost athletic opportunities when proof is tight.

Return-to-Play checklist for parents

Demand the following before your athlete laces up:

- ✓ Symptom-free at rest and after light exercise
- ✓ Written clearance on school letterhead, signed by an MD, DO, or athletic trainer licensed under IC 25-5.1-5
- ✓ A six-step, graduated return-to-activity schedule (light cardio > full practice)

If a coach or admin shrugs off these steps, call us. One phone consult could save a season and your child's long-term health.

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Heat Waves & Liability: When Outdoor Events Turn Dangerous

Triple-digit heat indexes that were once rare in Indiana now pop up every summer. OSHA warns that heat stress can impair fine-motor skills long before dehydration shows up, and severe illness and death may occur as a result. Who is responsible when a day at the festival lands you in the ER?

Venue and promoter duties

- Provide free potable water and shaded rest areas.
- Post medical-aid tents and clear signage.
- Train staff to spot heatstroke (confusion, slurred speech, skin hot but not sweating).

Failure to meet these basics can trigger a premises liability claim. Indiana courts weigh whether hazards were "reasonably foreseeable," and sweltering heat during the summer absolutely is.

Vendor duties

Food trucks and beverage stands must keep ice and water flowing. Their insurance often sits separate from the venue's, giving victims an additional policy to pursue.

Patron responsibilities

Yes, guests should hydrate and rest, but Indiana follows comparative fault: even if you are 20 percent to blame for not drinking enough, you can still recover 80 percent of losses if the site owner's negligence caused the other 80 percent.

Tips to strengthen a heat-injury claim

- Snap photos of lack of shade, empty water stations, or "Out of Ice" signs.
- Get the name badges of staff who refused aid.
- Seek medical attention immediately; ER core-temperature logs beat later urgent-care notes.

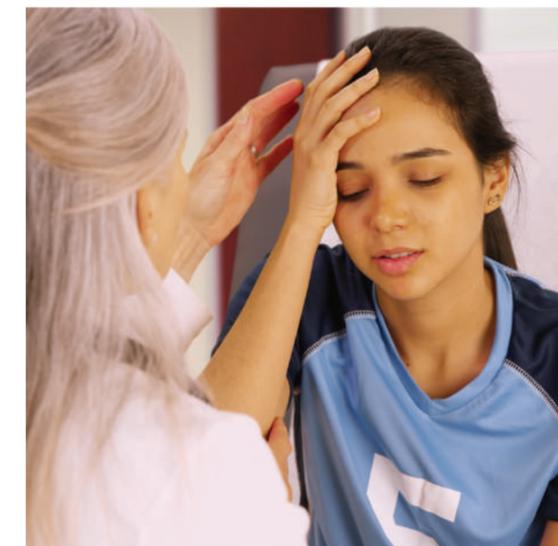
Severe heatstroke can mean lifelong kidney or brain damage. If an event cuts corners, let us hold them accountable.

Just How Long Do I Have to Sue in Indiana?

- Most personal-injury claims: 2 years from the injury date (IC 34-11-2-4).
- Minors: the clock pauses until age 18, then 2 years to file.
- Wrongful death: 2 years from the date of death.
- Medical malpractice: 2 years from the act, but the discovery rule may extend that if the harm was hidden.
- Suing a city or county: first file a Tort Claim Notice within 180 days.
- Suing the State: Tort Claim Notice is due within 270 days.

Miss a deadline and the case evaporates. Unsure when your clock started? Call us today.

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Testimonials

"When the insurance company tried to take advantage of me, Brandon Yosha was on their case ASAP. Brandon worked very hard to meet my expectation of my ideal settlement amount.

Also, Brandon was very professional and responsive every step of the way. And in the future if I need representation, I will not hesitate to call or recommend Brandon Yosha to my family and friends. Appreciate you Brandon, Job well done!!"

...Arnold Garner