

## **Teen Car Accident Rates Increase in Baltimore; Attorney Big Al Encourages Safer Driving in June**

This March, teen accident rates rose in Baltimore and are expected to continue rising next month unless driving behaviors change. Memorial Day approaches is one of the most dangerous driving days for teens, and in the wake of several deaths of teenagers in Baltimore and the overall raise in death rates, <u>Attorney Big Al</u> wants parents to encourage defensive driving tactics.

Pikesville, MD (PRWEB) May 17, 2016 -- As teenagers hit the road for vacation in June, Baltimore parents should caution their kids about the merits of safe driving because rates of teenage crash fatalities rose last month to an alarming rate, and a slew of accidents have left teenagers dead and injured across the city. Simple driving precautions can reduce these accidents as Memorial Day approaches, hopefully lowering the rates of teen crash fatalities as approach one of the deadliest seasons for our nation's youngest drivers.

In March, there were <u>several cases</u> reported by local news agencies of teenagers killed in car crashes when driving with friends, and rates across the city have risen to a level that has concerned <u>Attorney Big Al</u>. As warmer weather arrives in June and students get out of school, there is a risk that the crash statistics will continue to rise even further.

"When teenagers learn to drive, there's naturally a trial and error process as they figure out their vehicles, but sometimes a driving error can in tragedy," Big Al said. "We've seen more injuries and accidents in Baltimore last month than in previous months, and around Memorial Day those accident rates typically rise. We're nervous about that correlation."

Traffic accidents are the largest cause of death for teenagers in the United States, so it's critical to communicate with your teens about safe driving. To prevent rates of teen driving accidents from rising even further, you can have a simple talk with your teenagers. Most accidents happen with friends in the car, as teenagers are distracted by conversation and excitement; this is part of the reason why these accident rates tend to be so high.

You can enroll your teen in a defensive driving course that will teach them some basics about good driving techniques that they may not have learned in their driver's-ed courses, especially if the course they took was online. You can also inform your teens about the statistics about teenage drivers in the United States, many of which are available online. Finally, be sure you set explicit guidelines for good driving behaviors. Be clear about your expectations and ask them to sign a contract or give verbal acknowledgement that they understood.

Having a car is an exciting thing, but if teens better understand the responsibility they have to you, to their peers, and to society, they can lower crash rates in Baltimore and across the country.



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