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NEWSLETTER

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Thu : 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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## Distracted Driving and Walking: Cellphones

Driving while distracted is a very real danger that kills thousands each year in U.S. car accidents. And the biggest increase in distracted driving accidents comes from using a cellphone for calling or texting.



Indiana law prohibits all texting while driving, so not only is it a dangerous behavior, it's also illegal. Note that texting also includes reading texts, not just typing them. Young drivers under age 18 may not use a cellphone at all while driving including hands-free options.

### Accidents Due to Distracted Walking on the Rise

The videos of people staring into their phones and stumbling into street signs, other people or even falling into fountains may seem comical, but distracted walking can result in serious pedestrian injuries.

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## ....continued from page 1 **Distracted Driving and....**

The National Safety Council reports more than 11,100 injuries resulted from pedestrians being distracted by their cellphones between 2000 and 2011. There's even a new name for people walking while texting: Petextrian!

Walkers focusing on their cellphones instead of their environment are dangers to themselves but also can cause vehicle and bicycle accidents. Distracted walkers take longer to cross a street, often slowing down and walking erratically. Wearing headphones means they are unable to hear oncoming vehicles or traffic noise.

### **Popular Pokemon Go App Causing Pedestrian Accidents**

A new app based on the classic Pokemon media franchise is wildly popular with teens and young adults. When playing, images of Pokemon monsters appear on your smartphone screen.

However, users become so engrossed in the game that they stare at their phone screen instead of where they're going with injuries as the result. Each time the game loads the app displays a warning urging players to pay attention to their surroundings, but this is often ignored.

### **Put Safety First with Smartphones**

For safe walking - and gaming - stop in a safe place to make or receive a cellphone call or text. And take headphones off and put all electronics down when crossing a street, using an escalator or walking on stairs.

Parents, help your children understand the very real dangers of driving or walking while distracted. Safe Kids Worldwide has tools like tips on pedestrian safety for kids to help with this conversation. And check out this Forbes.com article for Pokemon Go safety tips.

## **Damages Limits for Uninsured Motorists with a Past Insurance Violation**

According to Indiana law, each registered vehicle in our state must have proof of financial responsibility - in other words, insurance.

Effective July 1, 2015 Indiana changed the law regarding damages that an insurer can pay an uninsured motorist and which the uninsured motorist can recover in a civil action for injury, death or property damage incurred in a car accident.



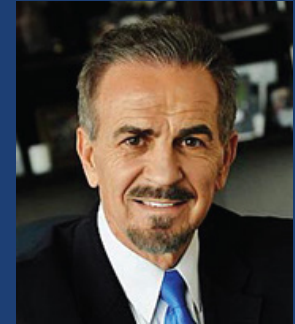
The law, sometimes called "no pay, no play," targets drivers who drive without auto insurance. It limits the damages by uninsured motorists who also have a history of driving while uninsured.

These drivers - who drive uninsured and have a history of driving uninsured - may not recover certain "non-economic" damages such as:

- Pain and suffering
- Mental anguish
- Emotional distress
- Physical impairment
- Loss of enjoyment
- Loss of companionship, services and consortium
- Any other non-pecuniary loss

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## **Our Attorneys and Staff**



**Attorney  
Randall Sevenish**



**Attorney  
Matthew Forsythe**



**Business Administrator  
Regina Sevenish**



**Office Manager  
Shannon Majors**



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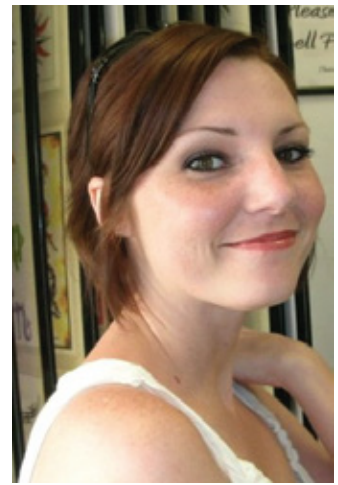
Note that this law does **not** affect the following damages that are not considered to be "non-economic":

- Medical expenses
- Rehabilitation treatments
- Lost wages
- Support expenses

The bottom line? If you don't obey the state financial responsibility laws, then you shouldn't be able to benefit from them either.

If you or a loved one has been injured in any type of accident or personal injury, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call **1-800-278-9200** for your initial free consultation. The Sevenish Law Firm, injury attorney in Indianapolis, can help you determine whether you need a lawyer for an accident or any personal injury case.

**Happy Birthday to Matt Forsythe, Shannon Majors and Sara McGuire**



**Happy Birthday to Abby Campbell,  
Randy and Regina's daughter**



**Happy Anniversary to  
Randy and Regina**



## Recipe of the Month

# Greek Island Chicken Shish Kebabs

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon salt



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### Directions

1. Whisk the olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, garlic, cumin, oregano, thyme, salt, and black pepper together in a large glass or ceramic bowl. Add the chicken and toss to evenly coat. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap; marinate in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours.
2. Soak wooden skewers in water for about 30 minutes before use.
3. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat; lightly oil the grate.
4. Remove the chicken from the marinade and shake off excess liquid. Discard the remaining marinade. Alternately thread pieces of the marinated chicken with pieces of bell pepper, onion, cherry tomatoes, and mushrooms onto the skewers.
5. Cook the skewers on the preheated grill, turning frequently until nicely browned on all sides, and the chicken is no longer pink in the center, about 10 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of [allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com)

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