



Murray Guari

Trial Attorneys PL

Personal Injury | Wrongful Death | Auto Accidents | Premises Liability | Product Liability

OVER \$150,000,000 RECOVERED FOR OUR CLIENTS!



Florida's Dangerous Roadways

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What to do After an Accident

Are You Supposed to Stay in the Car?

We recognize that the roads of South Florida can be a dangerous place, especially with the volume of traffic, distracted drivers, and construction zones. We also know you want to do all you can to keep yourself and your family as safe as possible when traveling on the road.

As personal injury attorneys, we believe it is important to serve our clients not only by representing them when something goes wrong but also by sharing helpful information to help avoid things going wrong in the first place.

Recently a young woman was in an auto accident. She survived the initial crash on I-95, but when she exited her vehicle, she was struck and died. Her tragic death could have been avoided had she stayed in her vehicle.

Often, when car accidents happen, those involved are unprepared, stressed, and not thinking clearly. So here are some important tips to follow to keep you and your families safe:

- If you are on a busy highway with fast-moving traffic, safety experts generally recommend that you stay in your vehicle,

seat belted with your hazards engaged – assuming you do not see smoke or smell fuel.

- If you feel unsafe and to prevent other vehicles from crashing into you and causing additional property damage or death, get your car off the road and into a breakdown lane (if available), engage your hazard lights, and wait for assistance. The protection afforded by your vehicle is highly preferable to being outside and vulnerable.

- If you must leave your vehicle, make sure it is **safe** to do so. Take a look at your surroundings before opening the car door and then move to a safe area away from traffic. People have been injured attempting to exit their vehicle after a crash or while checking their property damage, so do so with caution to avoid further injuries or damage to your vehicle.

We have created an **“Auto Accident Tips”** card for you and your family to keep in your glove compartment. You can call us at (561) 366-9099 to request copies for your vehicles or you can download it from our website at murrayguari.com/auto-accident-resource-page. The auto tips card provides you with the best steps to take in preparing for an accident and handling it once it happens. The card also includes a helpful section where you can record the details of an accident. ■

Helpful Tips for Car Accidents

Before you are in a car accident, be prepared and have with you:

- 1 Your auto insurance card.
- 2 Proof of vehicle registration.
- 3 Murray Guari Helpful Tips for Car Accidents.
- 4 Murray Guari Emergency Auto Tool (if you don't have one, ask us for one).
- 5 First aid kit.
- 6 Change flares for emergency use.
- 7 Call your insurance company and make sure you have Uninsured Motorist (UM) coverage. This coverage can only protect you if you have it before being in an accident.

If you are in a car accident, follow these steps:

- 1 Stay calm and check for injuries.
- 2 Always call 911 to report the accident, even if the other driver asks you not to.
- 3 Put on your emergency hazard lights and only move your vehicle if you feel unsafe or if the investigating police officer asks you to move it.
- 4 Do not discuss the accident details until the police arrive.
- 5 If you are able, and it's safe to do so, take photographs and video of the property damage to all vehicles involved in the accident, the position of the vehicles on the roadway, and any physical evidence on the roadway, like skid marks.
- 6 Record the names, telephone numbers, and addresses of any witnesses on the reverse side of this card.
- 7 Write down the accident details, including what you observe and anything the other driver and witness(es) say, on the reverse side of this card.

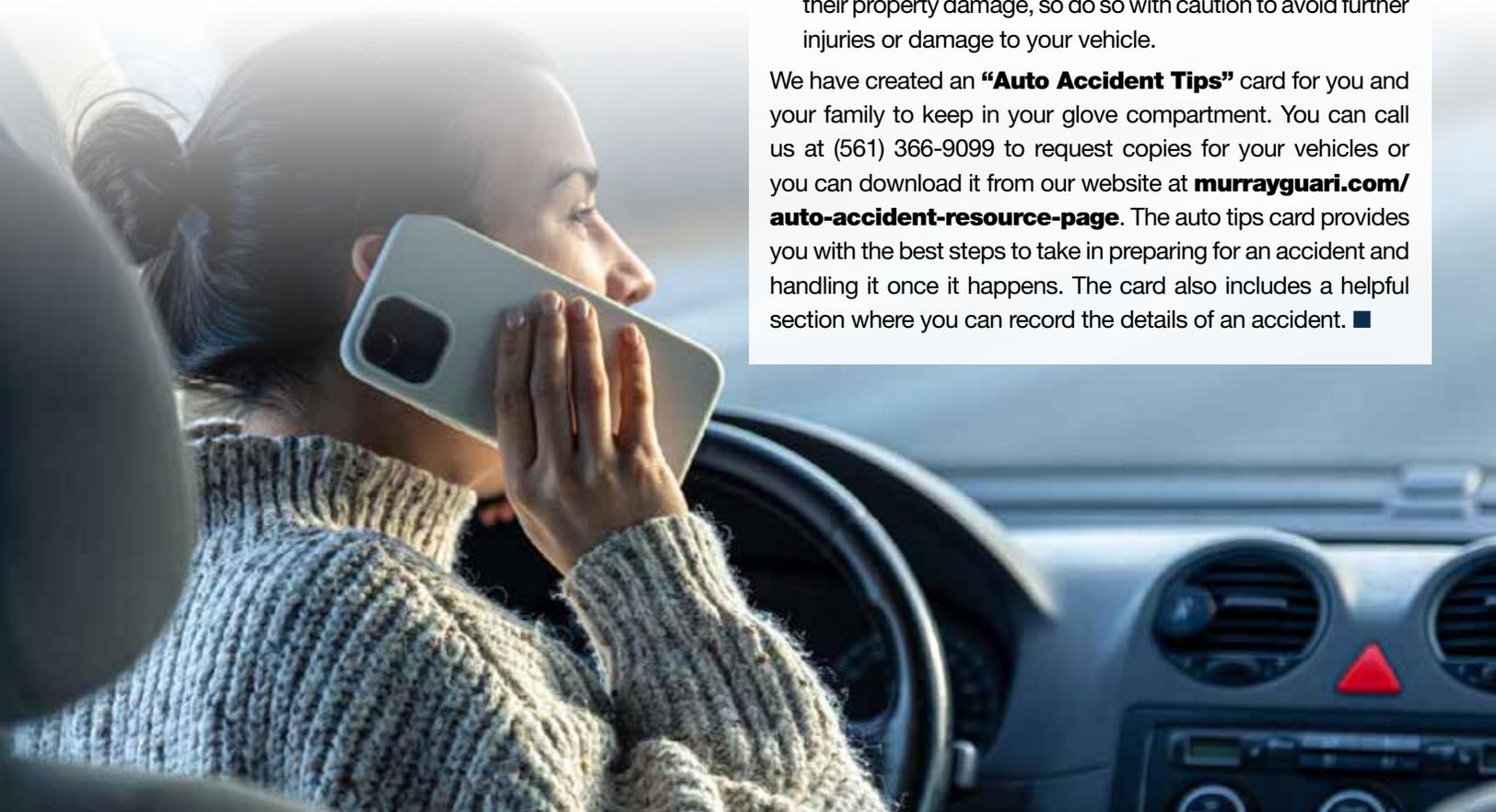
After the accident, make sure to:

- 1 Seek medical attention right away, if you think you may be injured.
- 2 Report the accident to your insurance company. Keep it simple, honest, and accurate.
- 3 **DO NOT** agree to a recorded statement until after you speak to us.
- 4 Call Murray Guari Trial Attorneys to seek legal advice and to protect your rights.

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We're here to help
 561.366.9099



Have You Been Exposed to Paraquat?

Paraquat, A Common Herbicide Used In Agriculture, linked to Parkinson's Disease

Our law firm is evaluating claims linking **Paraquat**, a common herbicide used in agriculture, to **Parkinson's Disease**.

If you, or a loved one, were exposed to Paraquat working in agriculture and are now diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, or are experiencing the signs and symptoms of Parkinson's, we urge you to contact our office for a free claim evaluation.

Parkinson's signs and symptoms may include:

- **Tremor.** A tremor, or shaking, usually begins in a limb, often your hand or fingers. You may rub your thumb and forefinger back and forth, known as a pill-rolling tremor. Your hand may tremble when it's at rest.
- **Slowed movement (bradykinesia).** Over time, Parkinson's disease may slow your movement, making simple tasks difficult and time-consuming. Your steps may become shorter when you walk. It may be difficult to get out of a chair. You may drag your feet as you try to walk.
- **Rigid muscles.** Muscle stiffness may occur in any part of your body. The stiff muscles can be painful and limit your range of motion.
- **Impaired posture and balance.** Your posture may become stooped, or you may have balance problems as a result of Parkinson's disease.
- **Loss of automatic movements.** You may have a decreased ability to perform unconscious movements, including blinking, smiling or swinging your arms when you walk.

- **Speech changes.** You may speak softly, quickly, slur or hesitate before talking. Your speech may be more of a monotone rather than have the usual inflections.
- **Writing changes.** It may become hard to write, and your writing may appear small.

Paraquat, a chemical that is used in many herbicides, is sold under many different names. The most common are Gramoxone, Parazone, Para-Shot, Firestorm, Helmquat, and others.

Studies have shown that people exposed to Paraquat are approximately 2.5 times, or 250%, more likely to develop Parkinson's disease.

Taking legal action does two things: A lawsuit enables individuals to hold large manufacturers accountable for their actions, possibly reducing the risk of others experiencing the same complications. It also helps families and individuals who suffer obtain fair financial compensation to cover the costs associated with the injury.

We urge you to contact us for a **FREE, NO OBLIGATION** evaluation of your claim if you worked as an applicator, mixer or assistant in the spraying of Paraquat products and you have now been diagnosed with Parkinson's or have begun to develop the signs and symptoms of Parkinson's. ■



**GUEST
COLUMNIST**

Mediator Kathryn L. McHale of Kathryn L. McHale, LLC

Resolving Disputes Through Mediation

I am a party to a lawsuit – what is a mediation?

Mediation is a form of alternative dispute resolution. It is a time-tested, cost-effective alternative to litigation. A mediator is a neutral third party who helps the parties understand the issues in a dispute and assists each side to reach an agreement. You may have heard that the best settlement or mediation is when everyone leaves unhappy because that means they all gave up something. How can you have the best mediation?

The decision makers must participate

With most, if not all, mediations by Zoom these days, the decision makers should be participating as they can be available by phone, if not in person on Zoom. The adjuster who has the authority is listening to the mediation and can then make the decision on whether to settle or not. He or she is given the real time opportunity to gain a realistic understanding of the dispute.

The choice of a mediator – Why is a mediator chosen?

Your attorney will most likely select the mediator that he or she feels is the best fit for your case. Mediators should be a good listener, a people person who can handle all types of personalities, a deal maker, and someone who can handle the technology challenges we face with Zoom mediations.

Be patient. Some things take time

We live in a timed world. Most mediations take time too. When you set aside two hours for a mediation, that may not be enough time. Mediations involve change. Change involves time to change. It



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takes time to address these issues, and it takes time for people to change their minds. Your mediator should be patient too to help facilitate the change in positions.

Problem solving

A resolution or signed settlement agreement is the ultimate goal of every mediation. How do you get there? Problem solving involves creativity and an open mind. Be open to ideas generated from the mediator as to how you can close the gap to a settlement. Let the mediator help reconcile the interests as he/she hears both sides and can utilize that information to help facilitate a resolution.

What if we don't settle?

Sometimes the parties just need a little more time to think about what they heard, saw or learned at the mediation. You should know more about your case after a mediation. Their strength is maybe not as strong as they thought. The other party's weakness was not really a weakness, legally. You selected the mediator to help you get across the finish line and when you think you can get there with just a little more communication let the process continue even after you have left that Zoom call. ■



Firm News



Meet Legal Assistant Megan Jalm

Megan joined the firm in August 2021. She is a legal assistant for the pre-litigation department supporting the pre-lit paralegals and the firm's attorneys opening up new files, and working up and preparing cases for demand, settlement, or to be placed into litigation. ■



Meet Legal Assistant Nicole Freyberg

Nicole joined the firm in September 2021. She is a Legal Assistant for the Pre-Litigation Department supporting the Senior Paralegal and the firm's attorneys working up and preparing cases for demand and settlement. ■



Meet Paralegal Joshua Cadrin

Joshua joined the firm in January 2022 coming from another boutique personal injury law firm. He is a paralegal who assists clients during the pre-litigation phase of a claim and supports the firm's attorneys. Joshua is a Florida native. He graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and also has an Associates of Science degree in Crime Scene Investigation. ■

Thank You For Your Confidence And Trust In Us

We at Murray Guari are thankful and humbled by the **positive feedback from our clients**. We remain strong on our focus – helping our clients when they need it most. **Here are a couple of recent reviews provided by our clients:**

“Scott Murray was my lawyer and I can't imagine hiring anyone else to handle my case. They are the most professional, courteous, and consistent attorneys I've ever come across. In addition, they get the job done right and got me the MAXIMUM I could get for my case. It's like trial automation. I couldn't ask for more. Looking forward to doing business with them again if I ever find myself in a similar situation. God bless.” ~ OA

“I had 2017 auto accident claim that just settled with Attorneys Jason Guari & Keith Hedrick. I am beyond pleased with the law firm and their staff including Paralegal Meghan Carney. They educated me about the process and guided me through a very tough fight against the insurance company. They treated me with respect and always kept me informed. If you were hurt in an accident, I would definitely recommend Murray Guari Trial Attorneys to help you. I would stay away from firms who constantly advertise on TV.” ~ AW

Recognitions

Our attorneys have been recognized on the local and national levels for their achievements in law, as well as their community leadership and other activities.



**Murray Guari –
Hablamos Español**



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How Can We Help?

At Murray Guari Trial Attorneys PL, we **represent victims** throughout Florida who have suffered serious personal injuries due to the negligence of others. At our firm, you will find a team that is **truly concerned about your well-being and getting justice for you.** We are proud that our clients come to us based on a personal recommendation from past clients and from other attorneys in the community who respect our reputation and the quality of our work. We would be honored to put our experience, skill and integrity to work for you. ■



Keith Hedrick, Scott Murray, Jason Guari, and Scott Perry

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