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NOVEMBER SWAP MEETS

+ 1 Rally You Won't Want to Miss!

As the riding season transitions into the cooler months, we've compiled a list of our favorite swap meets—and one Florida rally—happening this November that you won't want to miss.



1. Walneck's Shepherdsville Motorcycle Swap Meet

When: November 5, 2024

Where: Shepherdsville, Kentucky

Kickstart your November with a visit to Shepherdsville, Kentucky where you'll find a treasure trove of motorcycle parts, accessories and vintage gear. Don't miss the chance to connect with fellow enthusiasts and discover rare finds.

2. Walneck's Princeton Motorcycle Swap Meet

When: November 10, 2024

Where: Princeton, Illinois

Head to Princeton, Illinois for another fantastic swap meet by Walneck's. Whether you're looking for that missing piece for your bike or simply want to browse, this event is a must-visit for motorcycle aficionados.

3. Lima Motorcycle Swap Meet

When: November 10, 2024

Where: Lima, Ohio

Lima, Ohio welcomes riders and collectors to a bustling motorcycle swap meet. Browse through an array of parts, accessories, and more, and make new connections in the biking community.

4. St. Pete Beach BikeFest 2024

When: November 21-24, 2024

Where: St. Pete Beach, Florida

Join the warm-weather festivities at St. Pete Beach BikeFest in beautiful Florida. This four-day event is packed with live music, bike shows and the stunning backdrop of St. Pete Beach. It's an experience you won't want to miss.

5. So-Cal / Long Beach Motorcycle Swap Meet

When: November 24, 2024

Where: Long Beach, California, Veterans Stadium

Wind down November in style in the vibrant city of Long Beach, California with the Largest Motorcycle Swap Meet in Southern California. The So Cal Cycle Show and Swap Meet is a virtual supermarket for bikes with hundreds of vendors selling all brands of new, used, vintage motorcycle, bicycle parts and accessories, the event has become a must visit for the collector.

SAFETY REVIEW

5 Most Common Causes of Motorcycle Accidents + How to Stay Safe on the Road

As a biker, you know firsthand that while riding is incredibly exhilarating and rewarding, it's also very dangerous. In fact, the chances of sustaining severe and/or disabling injuries are multiplied for motorcyclists and their passengers. While it's not the most fun to talk about, it's critical that we stay informed so that we can remain safe on the road. That's why we're taking time this month to review the 5 most common causes of motorcycle accidents + ways we can prioritize our safety.

The most common causes of motorcycle accidents fall into these 5 categories:

1. **Rider Error** (this refers to the motorcyclist's failure to control the motorcycle, speeding, poor maintenance, inadequate training, etc.)
2. **Driver Negligence** (this refers to the motorist's failure to see a motorcycle, failure to yield, etc.)
3. **Inclement Weather**
4. **Road Hazards/Poor Road Condition**
5. **Driving Under the Influence (DUI, DWI, drunk driving)**

More specifically, the #1 leading cause of motorcycle accidents falls under (1) Rider Error and is the failure of the motorcyclist to properly negotiate a turn.

The #1 leading cause of multi-vehicle collisions involving a motorcycle falls under (2) Driver Negligence and is the failure of the motorist to see the motorcyclist.

So, what can you do to stay safe?

- ▶ **Stand out:** Make yourself noticeable on the road. Wear colorful clothing, use signals and headlights, but most importantly, never drive in a car's blind spot.
- ▶ **Be even more cautious when operating your motorcycle during inclement weather, on slippery road surfaces or when encountering obstacles on the highway** – as inclement weather presents more of a hazard for bikers than drivers.
- ▶ **Protect yourself by being a defensive driver at all times and in all conditions.** Avoid risky behaviors such as weaving between cars and tailgating, as these behaviors increase the risk of multiple vehicle collisions and motorcycle ejections, especially when sudden stops or abrupt lane changes are involved.
- ▶ **Remember this: Minimal impairment IS maximum impairment when on a motorcycle.** Nearly half of all fatal single vehicle motorcycle crashes involve alcohol. Operating a motorcycle requires more skill and coordination than driving a car. Even the smallest amount of an intoxicating substance can decrease your ability to operate a motorcycle safely.

Don't forget: Even though we may feel invincible on our bikes, we have to remember that we're not. It's imperative that we take appropriate caution to protect ourselves – so that we can continue to enjoy the biker life for years to come.

MOTORCYCLE CLUBS

A Legal Perspective

Motorcycle clubs have long held a unique and iconic place in American culture. From the freedom of the open road to the camaraderie of fellow riders, these clubs offer a sense of belonging and adventure. However, from a legal standpoint, there are several crucial considerations that riders should be aware of to ensure their experiences within these clubs remain positive – and within the bounds of the law.

Formation and Structure: Motorcycle clubs vary widely in their size and organizational structure. Some are informal groups of friends while others are highly structured with chapters and bylaws. Regardless of the type, **forming a club often involves legal steps like registration as a nonprofit organization which can offer certain legal protections and benefits.**

Liability and Insurance: One significant aspect of motorcycle clubs from a legal perspective is liability. When riders participate in club events or group rides accidents can happen. In such cases, it's crucial to understand the liability implications. Having the appropriate insurance coverage is essential and **club members should ensure that their insurance policies adequately cover group riding activities.**

Trademark and Intellectual Property: Many well-known motorcycle clubs have registered trademarks and logos. Unauthorized use of these symbols can lead to legal issues, including cease and desist orders, or even lawsuits. It's essential to **respect intellectual property rights** and obtain permission if necessary.

Criminal Activity: While most motorcycle clubs are

law-abiding and focus on community and camaraderie, some have been associated with criminal activities. It's essential for individuals to **distance themselves from any illegal activities and to be aware of their legal rights** if they ever find themselves in a challenging situation.

Safety and Compliance: Club members should always **prioritize safety and compliance with traffic laws.** Riding recklessly or engaging in dangerous activities not only risks accidents but also legal consequences.

Conflict Resolution: Like any organization, disagreements can arise within biker clubs. **Having clear dispute resolution mechanisms in place can help prevent legal battles within the club.** This could mean appointing a designated mediator or ombudsman within the club who can help members resolve disputes through open communication and compromise.

Undoubtedly, motorcycle clubs can offer incredible experiences and lifelong friendships. However, understanding the legal aspects of club membership is vital. Remember, the law is there to protect and knowing your rights and responsibilities is key to a safe and enjoyable ride.

A Most Respectful Shout Out To Veterans

Veterans Day is the day to remember the sacrifice and contribution of all who served in the military. We want to say thank you and express our gratitude to all U.S. Veterans. Everyone at our law firm recognizes and appreciates your commitment to our country and the sacrifices your families have made.

Each year, as Veterans Day draws near, many people ask what they can do for our veterans. Here are some recommendations:

- ▶ Acknowledge Veterans for their service by saying "Thank you for your service." Whether that's on Facebook, a text message, a phone call, a letter, or an in-person greeting. A sincere acknowledgment can go a long way.
- ▶ Get involved in your community where veterans frequent: VFW Posts, local Veterans Center, American Legion, or local non-profit. Veteran organizations are always looking for volunteers.





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The 2024 Motorcycle Giveaway is sponsored by the National Academy of Motorcycle Injury Lawyers.

