



Gloria!

The Blues are Stanley Cup Champs! This Summer is off to a great start. In this season's newsletter we talk about surprising items that are amazingly helpful in emergency auto situations, and tips on how to keep your beloved dog safe when traveling in the car. Injured in a car accident? We have a new auto accident compensation calculator! We also wanted to introduce our whole team; so in this issue, meet everyone at Roach Law Office



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Be Ready: 5 Commonly Overlooked Emergency Must-Haves for Vehicles



Vehicle emergencies need to be taken seriously. Without the proper tools on your side, even a seemingly small roadside problem can quickly become a dangerous scenario. Here are five commonly overlooked items every driver should keep in their vehicle.

1) Cat Litter

Cat litter is perfect for soaking up virtually any liquid. Keeping litter in your car is helpful in the event of an oil or fuel leak, as you can use it to keep these harmful fluids from spreading on the ground. Litter can also be used as a method of getting traction for your tires on slippery roads.

2) A Blanket

Keeping a blanket in your vehicle is critical if you live in cold climates or remote areas. Depending on weather conditions during the event of a roadside emergency, help could be hours away. Without a source of warmth, you could be in serious danger under such conditions. The best way to stay warm no matter what happens is to simply keep a thick blanket or two in your car at all times.

3) Shovel

Should you encounter challenging weather or road conditions, a shovel is what will help you most if your vehicle becomes stuck in mud or snow. A few minutes of digging can save you hours of waiting for roadside assistance. There are now many compact shovels made specifically for easy stowing in vehicles, which make for a great investment into your personal safety as you travel.

4) Fire Extinguisher

A small fire extinguisher is a must-have for every vehicle, as vehicle fires are more common than many people realize. Of all the emergency calls received by fire departments in the United States, about 13 percent are for vehicle fires. Putting out a vehicle fire quickly is extremely important because of the presence of highly flammable fuel, and a fire extinguisher is the perfect way to do just that.

5) Hazard Markers

The side of the road is a dangerous place to be. The more clearly other drivers can see

your disabled vehicle as they approach it, the earlier they can adjust their speed and create some space between them and your vehicle. Hazard markers are the best way to let any approaching drivers know your vehicle is not operating, so be sure to keep at least one marker in your vehicle, placing the marker a proper distance behind your vehicle in the event of an emergency.

These are just some of the many useful tools to keep in your car for better emergency preparedness. While many people neglect to keep items such as cat litter, blankets, fire extinguishers, hazard markers and shovels in their vehicles, you'll avoid the same mistake and give yourself the best possible chance of remaining safe on the road.



Real Ways to Drive Safely with Your Dog

Many dogs love nothing more than sitting in the front seat of the car, their head sticking out the window and tongue lolling to the side. But is this a safe way to travel for you and your dog?

It turns out that allowing dogs to roam freely in the car presents many dangers. Flying debris could injure your dog's eye or aggravate the sensitive skin on their face. Your dog could unexpectedly leap through a window that is cracked just a little too far. Many dogs owners are looking for safer ways to enjoy car rides with their canine. It can be complicated trying to figure what is best for your vehicle, so here are some real ways to ease your anxiety and enjoy driving with your dog.

Crates

Various tests have demonstrated that a crate is the best option to ensure your dog is safely contained in your car. It eliminates the risk of your dog becoming a distraction while you drive. It also eliminates the possibility of your dog being thrown from the vehicle or into another passenger in the case of a car accident. As concern for dog vehicle safety grows, more and more companies are releasing crash tested crates in a variety of sizes, materials, and price ranges. You should be able to find the perfect choice for your needs. A simple wire crate is also an option if you need to implement safety measures immediately. In addition to improved safety, crates can help calm a dog that is stressed by travel and car motion.

Harnesses

Seatbelt harnesses are a great option for smaller cars and sedans that cannot support a crate set up. Many people with large dogs find they cannot fit a crate into their sedan. A harness is a great alternative in this case. This will keep your dog in his seat and prevent him from moving around during travel. It is also a comfortable option for your dog and allows the dog to stretch out on the seat or sit up and look out the window. Seatbelt harnesses are also available from companies that perform crash tests.

Containment

The biggest factor at play is the containment of the dog. Ensuring the dog is not distracting you or blocking your field of vision is a real way to improve your car safety right away. It is important to remember that dogs can become airborne in a crash and injure you or another passenger. Making sure they are contained is important to everyone in the car.

Enjoy a road trip with your dog and the peace of mind that comes along with taking precautions to keep you and your pup safe on the road. These suggestions are easy to implement so you should be able to get on the road with your dog in no time.

Find out what your case it worth!

Missouri & Illinois Accident Compensation Calculator

What's your case worth? Every auto accident case is different. The answer to this question always boils down to damages. If you were in a Missouri or Illinois auto accident, [take this free 60 second case evaluation quiz](#).

Meet the Team!

About Kevin Roach



Kevin Roach is a native St. Louisan and has been practicing law in Missouri and Illinois since 2001. After receiving his B.A. from Colorado State University in 1993, Kevin Roach attended St. Mary's University School of Law and graduated with his Juris Doctor in 2000. Bar Admissions include Missouri, Illinois, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri and United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

Offering an Individualized Approach to Personal Injury Law

Kevin prides himself on having an open line of communication during every step of the legal process; highlighting that "we are not a high-volume settlement mill and provide a more individualized approach to personal injury law." Each year his firm agrees to represent a limited number of accident and wrongful death victims to guarantee Kevin can personally oversee all cases. This ensures every client gets the personal attention and results they deserve.

Serving all of Missouri and Illinois

The Law Offices of Kevin J. Roach are dedicated to providing personal attention and aggressive representation to meet each and every one of their clients' needs. If you have been injured in an accident, or have injuries due to the negligence of another driver in Missouri or Illinois, contact the Roach Law Office to schedule a free, no-obligation case review with Kevin Roach. Read about the firms recently settled cases [here](#)



Danielle Haddox, Paralegal

Danielle has been working with Attorney Kevin Roach since 2009. She received Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies and Paralegal Certificate from Webster University, an American Bar Association approved program. Danielle specializes as a paralegal for Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Divisions. Outside of work she enjoys spending time with family and friends, being active outdoors, and attending St. Louis Blues and Cardinals games.



Elizabeth Hassen, Paralegal

Elizabeth joined the team in 2018, assisting with Personal Injury cases. She has been working as a paralegal since 2013. Elizabeth was born and raised in St. Charles, MO. In her spare time she enjoys traveling as much as possible, hiking, spending time friends, and taking care of family.

**Shelby Ruprecht, Marketing Manager**

Born and raised in St. Louis County, Shelby attended Missouri State University in Springfield where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Communication. After moving back to St. Louis, she began working for Kevin Roach in 2016. When she is not at the office, Shelby works part time as a social media marketer and volunteers with an anti-poverty advocacy.

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