

CLANCY & DIAZ, LLP
PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS

Attorney Pete Clancy appointed to the 2020 Northern California Super Lawyers list

Clancy and Diaz would like to congratulate Pete Clancy on his appointment to the 2020 Northern California Super Lawyers List!

Super Lawyers recognizes outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Pete takes great pride in the personal approach he puts into each case and enjoys working to create a plan of action to move quickly and effectively. Others in the legal community respect him as a compassionate attorney who cares for the families he represents, and as a thoroughly prepared advocate in the courtroom.

Tips to avoid being hurt in a motorcycle crash

There is no greater freedom on the road than riding a motorcycle. While riding can be a great way to enjoy the open road, it comes with its own set of risks.

Unlike drivers of car and trucks, motorcyclists don't have the protection of seatbelts and airbags, making them more susceptible to serious and life-threatening injuries.

In order to prevent serious and fatal injuries, the California attorneys at Clancy & Diaz, LLP offer these important tips:

Always wear protective gear:

Helmets are effective at preventing severe head injuries and deaths. Even if you sustain a traumatic brain injury (such as a concussion) while wearing a helmet, the damage could be much worse without one. In addition to a properly fitted helmet, it's always a good idea to wear long pants, boots, a leather jacket, protective eye wear and

gloves to prevent severe injuries, such as road rash.

Keep your bike in good condition:

A crash caused by a mechanical defect can happen suddenly and unexpectedly. All it takes is for the brakes or steering to fail or for a tire to blow out. That's why it's important to always check the brakes, wheels, tires, steering, horn, lights and exhaust before riding. Any mechanical defects should be fixed promptly. It's also a good idea to install reflective devices on your bike to make you more visible to drivers at night.

Ride defensively:

You can never predict the actions of other drivers. Cellphone distractions, alcohol impairment, speeding,

aggressive driving and drowsiness are common causes of serious and fatal crashes. In addition, many drivers don't pay attention to motorcyclists or respect their right to share the road. It's best to keep a safe distance from other vehicles, especially if you notice someone driving erratically or they appear to be driving distracted. You should also be aware of common hazards in the road, such as potholes,

debris, uneven surfaces and downed tree branches.

If you were hurt in a crash because of a driver's negligence or reckless behavior, we can help you get the justice and compensation you deserve. Contact us to learn about the legal options available to you.

How to safely deal with aggressive drivers

All of us have come across an aggressive driver at some point. Sometimes we witness aggressive driving but don't actually encounter it.

When drivers lose their cool on the road, they may resort to shouting, giving rude gestures, speeding and erratic driving, tailgating or following other drivers, or getting out of their car to confront someone.

There are many reasons why drivers may become aggressive on the road. According to the The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration the leading reasons are:

- Drivers become impatient when running late, experiencing inconveniences, or encountering backed up traffic.
- Drivers feel safer engaging in aggressive behavior from the anonymity of their cars.
- Some drivers engage in habitual aggressive driving and have no regard for the safety of others or the rules of the road.


What to do when you encounter an aggressive driver:

When encountering aggressive drivers, the most important thing you should do is not take their anger towards you personally. An aggressive driver may be under stress and may not normally behave this way. Here are some tips on how to deescalate the situation:

- Simply ignore a driver who yells, gives a rude gesture, or honks at you.
- Pull over and let a tailgating driver pass you.

- Keep a safe distance between you and a driver who is speeding, weaving through traffic, or behaving erratically.
- Lock your doors and roll up your window if you're confronted at a red light or stopped in traffic.
- Call the police or drive to the nearest police station if you are being chased or followed.

If you were involved in a crash with someone who was engaging in aggressive driving or road rage, you will need to speak to an experienced car accident attorney to pursue a strong legal claim. Contact our law firm for legal help.

A yellow plastic caution sign stands on a light-colored tiled floor in a grocery store aisle. The sign features the word 'CAUTION' at the top, a red silhouette of a person slipping inside a triangle, and the words 'WET FLOOR' at the bottom. In the background, shelves stocked with various grocery items are visible.

Why slip, trip, and fall accidents often happen in grocery stores

Grocery stores are widely relied upon in the Walnut Creek area. While many people are no longer visiting shopping malls during the COVID-19 pandemic, they are still getting to the grocery store to get food and other essential items.

It's absolutely critical that grocery store management and employees go above and beyond to ensure the safety of customers. Slips, trips, and falls are among the leading causes of injuries in grocery stores.

Slipping and tripping hazards

A slip and fall accident can happen unexpectedly, especially if there are no signs to warn you in the area where the slipping hazard is located. One moment you might be browsing through items on the shelf. The next moment your feet might come right out from under you before you land hard on your back.

Slipping hazards in grocery stores are often the result of:

- Unaddressed spills, leaks, and breakages
- Unsecured carpets
- Water tracked in from outside

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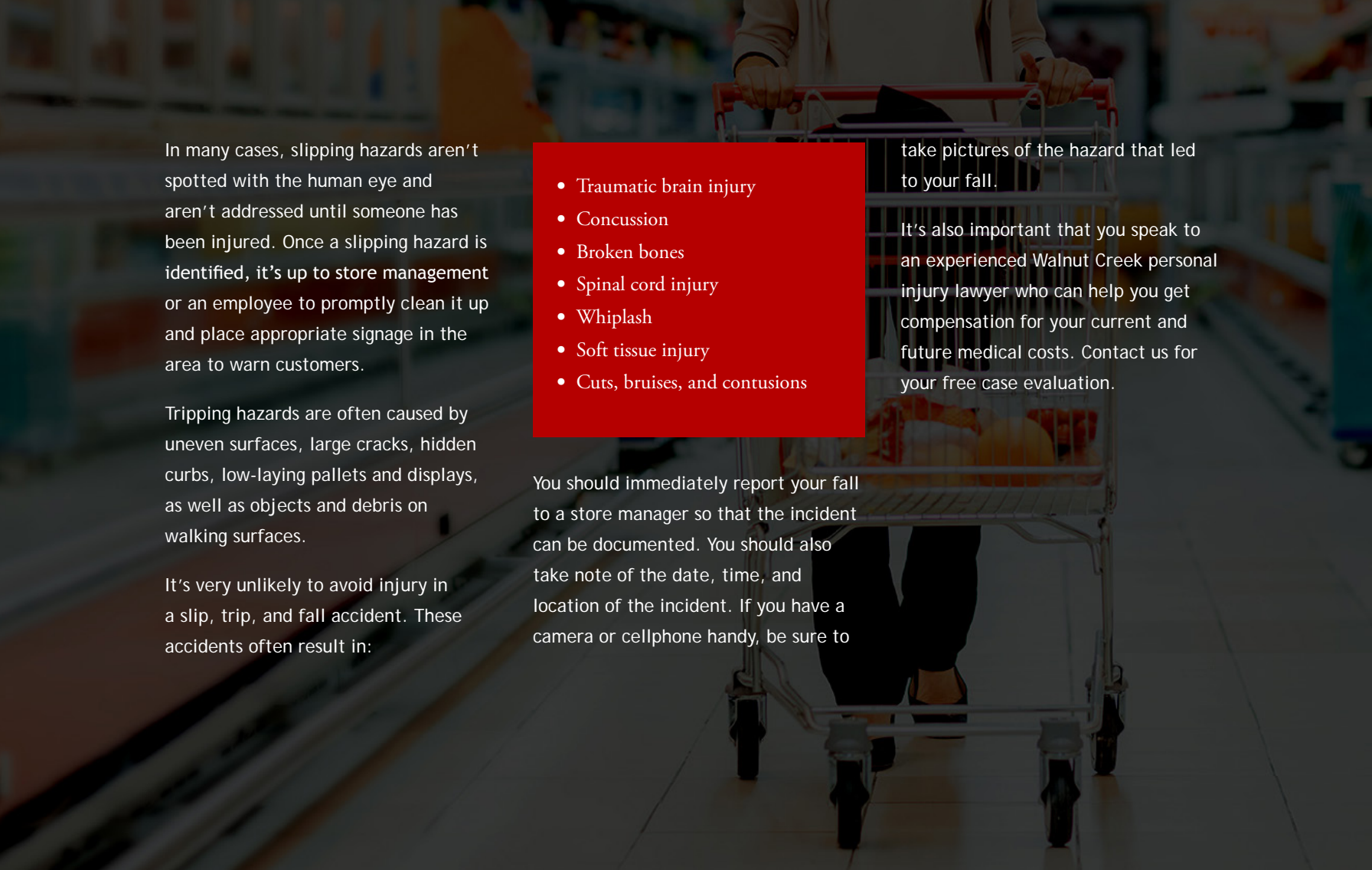
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In many cases, slipping hazards aren't spotted with the human eye and aren't addressed until someone has been injured. Once a slipping hazard is identified, it's up to store management or an employee to promptly clean it up and place appropriate signage in the area to warn customers.

Tripping hazards are often caused by uneven surfaces, large cracks, hidden curbs, low-laying pallets and displays, as well as objects and debris on walking surfaces.

It's very unlikely to avoid injury in a slip, trip, and fall accident. These accidents often result in:

- Traumatic brain injury
- Concussion
- Broken bones
- Spinal cord injury
- Whiplash
- Soft tissue injury
- Cuts, bruises, and contusions

You should immediately report your fall to a store manager so that the incident can be documented. You should also take note of the date, time, and location of the incident. If you have a camera or cellphone handy, be sure to

take pictures of the hazard that led to your fall.

It's also important that you speak to an experienced Walnut Creek personal injury lawyer who can help you get compensation for your current and future medical costs. Contact us for your free case evaluation.