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### **FAQ: The Insurance Adjuster Wants Me To Give A Statement About** The Accident? **What Should I Say?**

Unsure about giving a recorded statement after a car accident? The rule of thumb is never give one unless an attorney is on the line with you.

Insurance adjusters are paid to investigate claims and gather facts and one way they do this is by getting statements from all the parties involved in an accident, along with the statements of any witnesses. After getting all the available facts, the adjuster hopes to make an informed judgment about liability and decide whether to pay a claim, negotiate a compromised settlement, or deny a claim.

The linchpin of the investigation is the statement. Adjusters typically try to get either a signed statement or a recorded one. If they cannot get either, they will often try to obtain an interview. This technique is less innocent than it sounds.

Insurers are financially motivated to pay you less than your claim is worth, so the questions you are asked while getting your statement can be and frequently are slanted to favor the insurer In a nutshell, they will try and twist your words to pay you less

Taylor is not thrilled to be giving her statement - and you shouldn't be, either!

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## Fan of the Month

"Great experience. I have used this firm for many years, and I am care of. Great attorneys and staff."

- Christopher Brown

# Raving

always well taken



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Defending Liberty Pursuing Justice

**GTLA** 

GA/L

paralegal Joyce Pierce, Registered Nurse Deidre Thurmon. Joyce is always sharing with us how much Deidre cares about her patients at Georgia Cancer Specialists; it has been especially difficult during the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We asked Joyce to share a few words about her daughter as a kick-off to our Honor a Nurse program.

"Deidre is amazing because she puts the needs of others ahead of her own," Joyce said. "She cares and always brings a smile to any situation.

> Even with everything going on, she is still strong and dedicated to her patients. The people she helps are facing cancer so they are already scared but she does everything she can to give them support and kindness."

> When Deidre learned that she was selected as one of the Honor a Nurse recipients, she was thrilled.

"It has been stressful working during the



pandemic to say the least," Deidre said with a chuckle. "It's a scary time to be an essential employee, but this is what I chose to do. I chose to take care of the sick no matter what their sickness is and if given the opportunity, I wouldn't change it. My favorite thing about being a nurse is being able to bring joy, a smile, and a couple of laughs to my patients in their dark moments. I like being able to give some comfort to the patients. I'm honored to be chosen in the Honor a Nurse program. I thank you guys for thinking of me!"

May the kindness, hard work, and compassion shown by nurses be celebrated all year long. Thank you for all you do for our community!

## Thank You, Joyce, For 8 Years Of **Dedication!**

Joyce is such an essential part of our firm. It is hard to believe EIGHT years have come and gone! We are eternally grateful for the dedication and passion Joyce has shown over the years. Thank you for being part of our family! Happy Work Anniversary, Joyce!

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Nurse

We hear story after story about kind and compassionate nurses that have come to the aide of so

many. With the COVID pandemic wreaking havoc on the world, it is no surprise that these same nurses are stepping up to save lives, despite risking their own.

We asked the community to submit stories highlighting these brave souls, to honor deserving nurses with gift cards during National Nurses Week, May 6-12th.

"The stories we have heard over the years from our injury clients about the kindness and compassion shown to them by nurses has been so heartwarming," Attorney Jillian Todd said. "This year has been especially tough on healthcare workers, so we wanted to do something special to recognize all of their hard work and sacrifice. Every one of us knows a nurse out there making a difference and we want to tell their stories."

Thank you to all the people who shared stories of deserving nurses as part of our Honor a Nurse program to celebrate National Nurses' Week, May 6-12th and congratulations to our winners!

### Sandra McCall Morris -**Wellstar Cobb Imaging** Center

Sandra's sister, Violet Marks, submitted Sandra's story and explained how her big sister has always made her friends, family, coworkers, and patients her #1 top priorities.

Sandra has been a nurse for more than 45 years and is so dedicated to her job that she has never called off. She contracted Coronavirus-19 but has since been cleared to go back to work, yet she never once complained - she just wanted to get back to doing what she loves.



"Laini is one of the most compassionate people I know. She works the overnight shift at CHOA in their PICU unit and saves lives of children every day. Even prior to the pandemic, the heart and skill Laini provides to the youngest and sickest members of our community is amazing to me!! She's our superhero for sure!!"

- Julie O'Donnell, nominator





## RECIPE OF THE MONTH White Chocolate Macadamia

Totally irresistible, these cookies are a crunchy take on an old favorite: chocolate chip!

- 2 cups + 2 Tablespoons all-purpose flour
- teaspoon cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ sticks unsalted butter, melted + slightly cooled
- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup packed light or dark brown sugar
- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg + 1 egg yolk, at room temperature
- 1 and ½ teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 heaping cup white chocolate chips
- 1 cup roughly chopped macadamia nuts

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Whisk the flour, cornstarch,

baking soda, and salt together in a large bowl. Set

2. Whisk the melted butter, brown sugar, granulated sugar, egg, egg yolk, and vanilla extract together until combined. Pour into dry ingredients and mix everything together with a rubber spatula until completely combined. Fold in the white chocolate chips and macadamia nuts.

3. Roll cookie dough into balls, about 1-1 ½ Tablespoons of dough per cookie, and arrange 3 inches apart on the baking sheets. Bake for 12-13 minutes or until lightly browned on the sides. The centers will look soft.

4. Remove from the oven and allow cookies to cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. Enjoy!



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## Motorcycle Safety Important For Both **Riders & Drivers**

Motorcyclists are itching to get on the roads, especially since Georgia officials have allowed the state to open back up and the weather is perfect for riding. We urge both riders and drivers to pay close attention to prevent serious accidents from happening. Wear your helmets (Georgia law requires it!) and make sure to check out these safety tips for riders from the National Safety Council:

- Choose a bike that fits you; "supersport bikes" have driver death rates about four times that of cruisers or standard bikes, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety
- Invest in antilock brakes
- New riders should take a motorcycle safety course, and experienced riders should take refresher courses after being off their bikes for a while
- Know the rules of the road
- Be aware that riding with a passenger requires considerably more skill
- Never drink and ride
- Drive defensively, especially at intersections, where half of all collisions
- Watch for hazards like potholes, manhole covers, oil slicks, puddles, debris, railroad tracks and gravel
- Assume you are invisible to other motorists and position yourself to be
- Use headlights day and night
- Be courteous; don't weave in and out of lanes, or ride on the shoulder or between lanes
- Don't speed
- Wear bright and/or reflective clothing that is durable and boots that
- Wear goggles, glasses or use a face shield that is ventilated to prevent fogging, and make sure it's clear if riding at night

### For drivers:

- Always be on the lookout for motorcycles since they are relatively small it's easy for drivers not to see them
- Anticipate motorcycles' movements
- Be diligent about checking your blind spot
- Never drive distracted

Motorcycle accidents can be very devastating. Protect yourself and those you share the road with by paying attention as you drive. For more information on steps to take if you or a loved one has been injured in a motorcycle accident, be sure to contact Todd Law immediately to protect your health and your legal rights.



For the 2nd year in a row, Bikes for Kids Atlanta is asking parents, teachers, caregivers, and loved ones to recognize a deserving child this summer by nominating them to receive a free bicycle, compliments of Joseph M. Todd, PC. We will be giving away bicycles and helmets all

### Nominations can be submitted to www.BikesforKidsAtlanta.com

While there are no specific guidelines on what makes a nominee deserving of a new bike, we encourage nominators to think about any kind things that the child has done for others, or how the child has positively impacted his or her family, friends, community, or classroom.

If you know of a child who has a passion for helping others, please let us know by visiting www.BikesforKidsAtlanta.com and tell us their story. Together we can work to recognize kids who make a difference in the lives of others and encourage bicycle safety.

"The goal of Bikes for Kids is to recognize the compassion and kindness of Atlanta's kids while encouraging parents and kids to make safe riding a priority," Attorney Jillian Todd said. "We hope that this program helps kids focus on being good to one another and to themselves."



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