

FINDING HAPPINESS DURING THE HOLIDAYS AFTER TRAGEDY

The Holiday season is often seen as a time of joy, celebration, and togetherness. However, for those who have recently experienced a tragic and unexpected event, it can also be a time of intense sadness and grief. If something like this has happened in your family, it's quite probable that celebrating the holidays is honestly the last thing you feel like doing.

The first thing to remember is that you're not alone: thousands of people each year suffer some trauma or tragedy during the holiday season--and millions more experience renewed grief during the holidays over losing someone they loved.

Whether you've suffered from an injury accident or lost a loved one, coping with the aftermath during the festive season can be challenging, especially considering the expectations that all should be "merry and bright." The good news is that there are ways to process this pain, to live with it, and even to find some sense of joy despite it.

Understanding Grief

Firstly, remember that grief is a natural response to loss, and

it's okay to feel sad, angry, or confused. Everyone's grieving process is different, and there is no "right" way to grieve. Give yourself permission to feel these feelings. Don't rush yourself or let others dictate how you should feel. Be patient with yourself, and remember that healing takes time.

Connect With Loved Ones

Grief is natural, but it can also be isolating--and that's not always a good thing at the holidays. It's crucial to stay connected with your loved ones. Talk about your feelings with them, share your memories, and don't hesitate to ask for support when you need it. You might find comfort in their company or by sharing your experiences with them. Remember, it's okay to lean on others during this time; you're not alone.

Cherish Memories

Cherishing memories of happier times can be an effective way to cope. You might find solace in looking through photo albums, listening to favorite songs, or visiting places that (Continued from page 1) - - - -

hold special significance. These activities can help you remember your loved ones in a positive light and remind you of the happy times you shared.

Engage in Activities

Engaging in activities that bring you joy can also be beneficial. This could be anything from cooking, reading, painting, or even going for a walk. These activities can distract you from your grief and bring a sense of normalcy back into your life.

Seek Professional Help

If your grief feels overwhelming, or if you feel stuck in the grieving process, please seek out professional help. Therapists and counselors can help you process your feelings as well as provide strategies to manage your grief so you can navigate through this difficult time.

Find Joy in the Season

Some people who have experienced loss feel a sense of

guilt if they experience laughter or find some other respite from their sorrow. Remember, not only is it okay to feel sad --it's okay to feel happy, too. It's okay to enjoy the holiday season itself. And it's okay to find moments of joy amidst your grief. After all, your loved ones would want nothing more for you. This doesn't mean ignoring your grief but instead finding ways to incorporate it into your celebrations. Perhaps you could start a new tradition in memory of your loved one or donate to a charity they cared about.

This holiday season, remember to take care of yourself. Connect with your loved ones, cherish your memories, engage in activities that bring you joy, and don't hesitate to seek help if you need it. Most importantly, allow yourself to find happiness during this time. You deserve it.

Remember, if your family has suffered loss over the holidays due to personal injury or wrongful death, the McCraw Law Group can work on your behalf to help you obtain any compensation for which you are eligible. To schedule a free consultation, contact us today.

Dallas Traffic Deaths Soar; The Dangers of Driving in Dallas FROMTHE McCraw Blog

New data from an NBC 5 investigation reveals that Dallas has the highest traffic fatality rate among the ten largest cities in the United States over the past five years. The city averaged about 15 traffic deaths for every 100,000 people from 2017 to 2021, which is higher than any other city with over one million residents. Furthermore, Dallas' traffic death rate is significantly higher than nearby cities like Houston, Fort Worth, and Los Angeles.

The findings indicate a concerning trend in road safety, with over 1,000 people killed and more than 5,600 seriously injured in traffic crashes in Dallas alone since 2019. In the broader North Texas area. over 4,300 people have died in road accidents within the same timeframe, with more than 20,000 experiencing serious injuries.

The investigation identified speeding as the leading contributing factor to deadly crashes in Dallas, often in combination with other issues like driving under the influence and failing to stay in one's lane. Excessive speeding is particularly prevalent, with some drivers caught going over 100 mph in a 65 mph zone.

The data also reveals that high speeds and aggressive driving behaviors are not limited to highways but are observed on city streets, even where speed limits are lower, and pedestrian traffic is common.

This poses a significant risk, as research indicates that higher speeds **MCCRAW** increase the likelihood of fatal or severe injuries in collisions. To address this issue, the investigation sug-

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be designed in a way that encourages high-speed driving. Experts recommend road design changes that naturally slow down drivers, including narrowing lanes and implementing traffic calming measures. The investigation will continue to explore the deadliest streets in Dallas and examine the steps taken to reduce high speeds through innovative design changes, stricter speed enforcement, and improved pedestrian safety.

The high rate of traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Dallas highlights the urgent need for improved road safety measures and stricter enforcement of traffic laws. Victims of traffic accidents may seek legal recourse to recover damages and hold responsible parties accountable. Additionally, it underscores the importance of taking preventive measures such as driving responsibly and adhering to posted speed limits to reduce the risk of personal injuries in accidents.

If a negligent party has seriously injured you or a loved one, McCraw Law Group is here to help. Call today for a free consultation to find out what we can do for you. Our proven client process ensures that we receive results fast. From dealing with insurance companies to arranging transportation, McCraw Law Group has the resources to assist you

in your time of need.

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in the region may



IN THE COMMUNITY

First Responders Scholarship

At McCraw Law Group, we hold immense respect for the dedication and bravery of first responders. Our First Responders scholarship reflects our commitment to supporting and honoring these courageous individuals. Each year, we award one individual who is either currently a first responder, aspiring to be a first responder, or has been profoundly impacted by one with \$1,000 to help with education costs.

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Our 2023 First Responders Scholarship winner is Owen Strouse from York, Pennsylvania. Owen began volunteering as a junior firefighter at the age of fourteen alongside his father, a firefighter of over thirty years. Owen's hard work and commitment to his community earned him the title of National Junior Firefighter of the Year from the York County Fireman's Association in 2021. It is our honor to assist Owen in his endeavors to further his education and serve his community as a first responder.



McKinney Dia de Los Muertos

On October 14th, McCraw Law Group sponsored downtown McKinney's annual Dia de Los Muertos celebration. With over 5,000 attendees, our team spent the day eating delicious food, listening to beautiful music, and engaging with the community. MLG handed out sugar skull hand fans and stress balls, first aid kits, and koozies! We even had a balloon artist and a face painter who worked tirelessly all day to bring joy to the children who made their way to our booth. Our team also organized a spa giveaway where two lucky winners received \$150 gift certificates to Face Forward Skin Care, a luxurious salon and spa. It was our second year participating in the wonderful cultural celebration of the Day of the Dead, and we look forward to next year's event!

K-LAKE 97.5 Teacher of the Year Program

This school year, we were proud to join El Dorado Chevrolet, El Dorado Mazda, and Crow's Heat & Air in sponsoring 97.5 K-LAKE Radio's Teacher of The Year Program! Each month, the community nominates outstanding teachers for a chance to be chosen as the "Teacher of the Month" and win a total of \$750 from the sponsors. Once the school year ends, one of the winning teachers will be named the "Teacher of the Year." Please take the time to nominate your favorite pre-k, elementary, intermediate, middle school, or high school teachers from any public, private, or charter school in Collin County. Please go to www.klake.com to nominate a teacher who has impacted you and deserves recognition! Judges will select a winner every month until May 2024. Please include as much information as possible when submitting the form so that your favorite



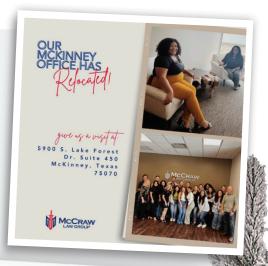
teacher has a better chance of winning! Thank you in advance to all of the participants, and we look forward to helping teachers recognize how much we appreciate them.

The World Series Challenge

Lin McCraw was so confident that the Texas Rangers would win the World Series of baseball that he took on a bet with Mark Breyer at the Husband and Wife Law Team in Phoenix, Arizona (@husbandandwifelawteam), against the Arizona Diamondbacks. The challenge stated that the losing team would donate \$1,000 to the winner's charity of choice and two tickets to a Dallas Mavericks vs. Phoenix Suns basketball game in the winner's city for that charity to raffle off. You can watch these entertaining videos on TikTok (@mccrawlaw), Instagram (@mccrawlawgroup), or Facebook. We partnered up with Direction 61:3, a charity we have long supported that works tirelessly to provide food, shelter, and assistance to children aging out of foster care. When the Rangers took the triumphant win over the Diamondbacks, we took a visit to the newest property addition to Direction 61:3 known as "The Farm" to meet with the president, Myron Wilson, and the director of business development, Kathy Blank, and to hold the raffle for the basketball tickets donated by Mark Breyer. Thank you again to Mark Breyer at the Husband and Wife Law Team, Myron and Kathy at Direction 61:3, and congratulations to Al Muglach. We hope you enjoy the game, Al!

RELOCATIO

One of our greatest milestones thus far has been the relocation of our McKinney office. We are now located in the Valliance Bank off the Sam Rayburn Tollway at 5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Suite 450, McKinney, TX 75070. This upgrade allows us to better serve our clients in a more spacious, relaxing, harmonious environment. Give us a visit and see for yourself!





Much to Celebrate

Well, it has been a while since I last had the opportunity to write you. Things at the firm have been crazy, challenging, and fun all at the same time. We have moved our flagship location in McKinney to the Valliance Bank Building and, in addition to providing the best representation possible in personal injury cases, are also doing all of the "stuff" that comes with a new move. New furniture, computer upgrades, and decorating all take effort and money.

I am very excited about the possibilities of our new, much larger space. Our teams can now have their own dedicated spaces with multiple conference rooms and a war room to help bring every ne together for trials and evidence-heavy hearings. Our team loves it, and we are just getting started. Our new office overlooks the Sam Rayburn Tollway at Lake Forest Drive. We are having a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception on January twenty-third at four-thirty in the afternoon.

You are invited to come and see the new digs and enjoy a drink and some light finger foods. I would love to see you there!

While there is much to celebrate during this season, I wanted to take a moment to lift up all who have lost something or someone recently. After a loss or serious change in your life, the seasons that follow are seasons of first. The first time without a loved one for holidays, the first time a task is attempted after surgery, the first time you may not be able

Remember, others around you sometimes suffer in silence with these firsts and the holes that result in their souls.

Take the time to reach out to whoever you are thinking about right now and tell that person you were thinking about them. Tell them that you care and

I am so thankful for the opportunity to help make someone else's life just a little better each day.

I hope that each one of you sees the silver lining in every cloud, the opportunity to help and serve in every challenging situation, and are blessed with the connections you form as a result.

~ Lin McCraw



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Shannon Williams

McCraw Law Group exceeded my expectations! I was in a bad car wreck where a girl ran a light totaling my vehicle causing me pain, a serious concussion and altered my quality of life with my family. I immediately consulted with McCraw Group and was introduced to lan who agreed to take my case. I worked with Janet, April and lan and all were extremely professional, kind, patient and explained each step of the process. I could tell they were truly going to bat for me and cared about the outcome. they recommended top medical professional they work with to treat my injuries. I would venture to say most attorney groups would not put forth the effort to handle your claim or represent their clients with such integrity as they did. Fantastic job lan! Thank you to all staff who were part of helping me through a tough situation!

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