



## Virginia Personal Injury Lawyers Support More Safety Education for Teen Drivers

*A recently issued national report focuses on a subject that the Virginia personal injury attorneys of Marks & Harrison have focused on for many years: Promoting safe driving among teenagers.*

Richmond, VA ([PRWEB](#)) February 5, 2011 -- A recently issued national report on the wide impact of teenage driving crashes reinforces a belief long held by the Virginia personal injury lawyers of Marks & Harrison: The best way to reduce teen [car accidents](#) is to raise teens' awareness about the consequences of risky driving behavior.

According to the report, compiled by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and State Farm Insurance, more than 40,000 people were injured in 2008 in automobile crashes involving teenage drivers, with nearly 30 percent of the fatalities occurring to the occupants of the other vehicle involved in the car wrecks.

The report identifies four key behaviors that contribute to teen driving accidents and fatalities: Failure to use seat belts, speeding, alcohol use and distracted driving, such as using a cell phone or texting while behind the wheel.

In a news release announcing the release of the report, "[Miles to Go](#)," one of the report's co-authors points to startling statistics showing that more than 40 percent of teens fatally injured in car accidents in 2008 had a positive blood alcohol content, while 16 percent were reported to have been distracted.

"Reducing speeding and alcohol use, increasing seat belt use, and eliminating distractions for teen drivers are the four calls-to-action we see in this report that would have a great impact on reducing injuries and fatalities for all road users," said the co-author, Dennis Durbin.

Those subjects have frequently been touched upon the attorneys of Marks & Harrison, a Richmond-headquartered personal injury law firm that represents car accident victims throughout Virginia, including those injured in [drunk driving](#) and distracted driving crashes.

For 12 years, as part of its community outreach efforts, the law firm has sponsored a teen drinking and driving safety program called, "[Make it Home](#)."

The program was designed in conjunction with nurses in the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at the Medical College of Virginia, and it has been presented to more than 10,000 high school students throughout central Virginia in an effort to educate teen drivers about the tragedies that can occur if they choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol.

In the program, Marks & Harrison personal injury attorneys show a 20-minute video to students and participate in a question-and-answer session. Two of the firm's Virginia personal injury lawyers, Ryan Wind and James Mick Kessell, presented the program in November at Richmond's Open High.

About Marks & Harrison

Established in 1911, [Marks & Harrison](#) represents clients in a variety of practice areas, including personal



injury, wrongful death, car accidents, tractor trailer accidents, motorcycle accidents, alcohol/drug-related accidents and pedestrian injuries. The firm features offices located in the Virginia cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Louisa, Charlottesville, Tappahannock, Hopewell, Staunton and Fredericksburg. To learn more about the firm and its car accident attorneys, call (800) 283-2202 or use the firm's [online form](#).

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