



## Integrity: Where Do You Stand?

**By: Russell Button**

Over the last few months, I have seen many instances where people and companies have an opportunity to own up to their actions or choices. Some choose to take responsibility for their actions and make it right. Others choose to deny, blame others, lie, steal, cheat, or all of the above. This month I decided to write about integrity and what it means. Very simply, the definition of integrity is the quality of being honest. Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

I used to play basketball in college. I still remember to this day when our trainers would give us a workout to do, but some of my teammates wouldn't do what they were told to do. They would do 3x5 on bench instead of 3x10. They would only run 2 full-court sprints instead of 5. It would frustrate me to no end. Of course they could get away with it, but to me, it was a matter of integrity.

So, I remember talking to my Dad one day and he started laughing. He told me "you can't force people to have integrity. You either have it or you don't." He went on to tell me that it will all come back to them in different ways. At the end of the game when you are still going strong, they will be winded and tired. Later on in life when they look back and talk about how they wished they had done this or that, you won't have those regrets because you gave it everything you had.

In the end, we will all have opportunities throughout our lives to show our integrity. It is up to us whether we choose what's convenient for the moment or what is right. It is as simple as that. Ask yourself, where do you stand? Are the 5 closest people to you people of integrity?

In the coming months, I will write about how integrity is a missing quality in corporate America and how that has impacted millions of innocent people throughout our communities.

### THIS ISSUE

Integrity .1

Halloween Safety Tips P.2

Cart Wreck P.3

Distracted Driving P.4

## Halloween Safety Tips— Trick or Treat?

By Russell Button

Now Halloween is upon us. It's always amazing how fast time flies. I vividly remember nearly every Halloween costume I have worn. Take a moment and think about all the good memories you have from your Halloween nights as a child. They are essential parts of our childhood. Our kids will remember them for years to come.

Because our childhood memories are so valuable and precious, I wanted to take the time to suggest a few safety tips to keep this Halloween from being anything but special for our loved ones.

First, this year Halloween falls on a Saturday night, which means more people will be coming home from parties and likely impaired, intoxicated, distracted, or any combo of the above. So, be sure to wait an extra second after your light turns green to wait for red light runners to clear. Walk on sidewalks, if possible, or face on-coming traffic. Try to be off the roads and at your final destination earlier in the evening.

Here at The Button Law Firm, we are working to prevent life-changing events from happening to our loved ones and friends. Enjoy your Halloween!



### Safety Tips:

- **Travel in packs:** Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Always have your kids walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- **Tricky treats:** Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.
- **Stranger danger:** Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Never accept rides from strangers.

## What Do I Do When I Get In A Car Wreck?

**By: Russell Button**

Until I became a trial lawyer, I never realized how many of us do not know what to do when we are involved in a car or truck wreck. Honestly, I never really knew what to do until I tried my first case and saw how the defense attorneys try to poke holes in everything. Then, when I talk to clients, they always tell me they never knew to do this or thought to ask that.

So, over the next few months, I am going to be writing about different aspects of what to do when you're involved in a car or truck wreck. Eventually, I will be sending out a laminated card with step-by-step instructions so you can remember these when you are in the heat of the moment.



1. **Call 911:** always call the cops. Sometimes they will not come out there, but it is always good to make a record that you tried.
2. **Take Pictures:** take pictures of the scene, your car, their car, their driver's license, their insurance card, and license plates.
3. **Get witness information:** if anyone is in your car, stops for you or is around the scene, ask them for their name, phone number, email address, and mailing address. They will become vital later on.
4. **The Exchange:** always get the other driver and any passengers' contact information: phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, and full name.

If you get what you need when it happens, it will help immensely, especially if the case needs to be handled by an attorney later on. If you can't because you're injured, make sure to call a friend or family member to come there to get it for you as well as call 911 to come out there. Pass this information along to any new drivers you know. It will be helpful for them.

We hope you and your loved ones never get in a wreck. However, if you are in a wreck, please know that not every case needs an attorney to handle it, but reach out to us either by email or telephone. We would be glad to listen to your story and explain your options so that you and your family can make informed decisions.

## Distacted Driving: We Have A Right To Be Safe

By: Sheba George

At The Button Law Firm, we experience case after case of individuals injured due to a distracted driver that neglects our right to be safe on our roads, whether it is hand-held talking while driving, texting and driving or hand-free talking and driving. Distracted driving has become an epidemic in our society. Currently, thirty-seven (37) states prohibit the use of cell phones by novice or teenage drivers. Texas specifically has outlawed the use of cell phones in school zones. Yet there is still a high degree of danger when we enter the roads. We have found that the younger generation, "Generation Y", have been found to be the most common perpetrators of this crime. Recent studies have shown us that distracted driving among inexperienced drivers specifically can lead to misjudgment, driving too fast for road conditions, drivers not under proper control, overcorrecting or oversteering.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported that 5,870 members of our community were killed and an estimated 515,000 people were injured in reported crashes involving driver distraction in 2009. With that being said, since distracted driving has not been made illegal by the state of Texas, we encourage each of you to speak up and create awareness of this epidemic. Sooner or later, someone close to us will be affected by a distracted driving. Why wait to speak up? We all know that driving can be dangerous and should be treated as such every time you enter your vehicle. Please speak up and remind your loved ones of this responsibility.

If you or a loved one has been injured in a case involving a distracted driver, please reach out to us. We are here to help you and your families through this life-changing event. The Button Law Firm is on a mission to change laws and save lives throughout the country to eventually eliminate these deadly crashes. Join us in becoming safety advocates. We have a right to be safe on our roads.



*Together We Can Make a Difference*