



Rhode Island Personal Injury Attorney Says Report Shows ‘Devastating’ Burdens Faced by Car Accident Survivors

While money cannot replace someone killed in an auto accident, it can provide families with the financial support needed to face the future, says Providence personal injury lawyer Mark Gemma.

Providence, RI ([PRWEB](#)) May 27, 2011 -- According to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 30,000 Americans are killed in car crashes each year.

But coping with the grief of losing a loved one is not the only challenge that families face in the wake of fatal car accidents, says [Rhode Island personal injury attorney](#) Mark W. Gemma.

“At the same time that families are mourning their tragic loss, they are simultaneously facing the reality that there may be potentially devastating financial burdens that arise as a consequence of the crash,” Gemma explained.

Gemma, an attorney whose [Rhode Island personal injury law firm](#), Gemma Law Associates, handles personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits that arise from [Rhode Island vehicle accidents](#), said medical bills and lost wages can result in significant hardships for victims’ families.

According to the [CDC study](#), motor vehicle crash-related deaths resulted in \$41 billion in medical and work loss costs in the United States last year. In Rhode Island, the total combined cost from fatal car accidents was \$79 million. Almost 99 percent of those costs were due to work loss.

The CDC defines work loss as the total estimated salary, fringe benefits and value of household work that an average person of the same age and sex of the person who died would be expected to earn during his or her lifetime.

“Placing a dollar value on factors like work loss helps families and survivors of non-fatal accidents recover the financial compensation they need and deserve,” Gemma said. “They undoubtedly incur thousands of dollars in medical bills and accident-related expenses, and they may have legal grounds to remedy that situation.”

The Rhode Island attorney added that while lawsuits are often painful for victims and families to go through, obtaining a favorable result in court can provide some solace.

“Prevailing in a lawsuit when there is an auto fatality is a mixed blessing,” he said. “On the one hand, there is the satisfaction of knowing that accident survivors and their families may not suffer the financial hardships they would face if they hadn’t gone to court. At the same time, money will never fill the grief caused by the loss of a loved one.”

About Gemma Law Associates, Inc.

Gemma Law Associates, Inc., is a [Providence, R.I., law firm](#) that has represented the people of Rhode Island for more than 48 years while earning a reputation for success in several practice areas, including drunk driving accidents (DWIs / DUIs), car accidents, personal injury, workers’ compensation, Social Security disability, divorce, criminal defense and bankruptcy law. The law firm’s staff works as a team to ensure success in cases



and is backed by a state-of-the-art collection of resources, including an advanced computerized case management system and an extensive legal library.

The firm represents clients throughout the state of Rhode Island, including Providence, Pawtucket, Warwick, Washington County and Newport County. To learn more about Gemma Law Associates, Inc., call (401) 467-2300 or use the firm's [online contact form](#).

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