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BLACKBURN **ROMEY**

TRUSTED INJURY LAWYERS

NOVEMBER 2025



Blackburn Romey attorneys (from left): Frank Wolferd, Ryan Lindinger, Tom Blackburn, Chad Romey, Christopher Blackburn and David Singleton.

Blackburn Romey Staff Celebrate A Full Month of Halloween Spirit



SOUTH BEND OFFICE GETS INTO THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT — The Blackburn Romey staff at the South Bend office get ready for a haunted Halloween feast. From left: Haley Paschke, Alyssa Gault, Holly Irwin, attorneys Ryan Lindinger and Frank Wolfert, Pam Hansing, Brittany Roberts, Hayley Rabe and Jaime Maitland.

Fog Machine Sets Off Fire Alarm

With all of the Halloween events going on at Blackburn Romey offices in October, it was exciting enough, but it got even more so when their fog machine set off the fire alarm and a Fort Wayne firetruck rushed to the scene.

“We were having a Halloween party, the fire alarm went off and the firefighters came — a little excitement,” said attorney Chris Blackburn.

The Fort Wayne firefighters, once they confirmed the fog machine had set off the alarm, assisted with the smoke alarm system and prepared to leave.

Blackburn Romey employees thanked them and invited them to take some party refreshments before they headed back to their station.

“The firefighters were amazing,” said Alicia Johnson, a pre-litigation assistant. “They even got to enjoy some of our spooky food to go — Coney Island coney dogs and Walmart Bakery spooky desserts.”



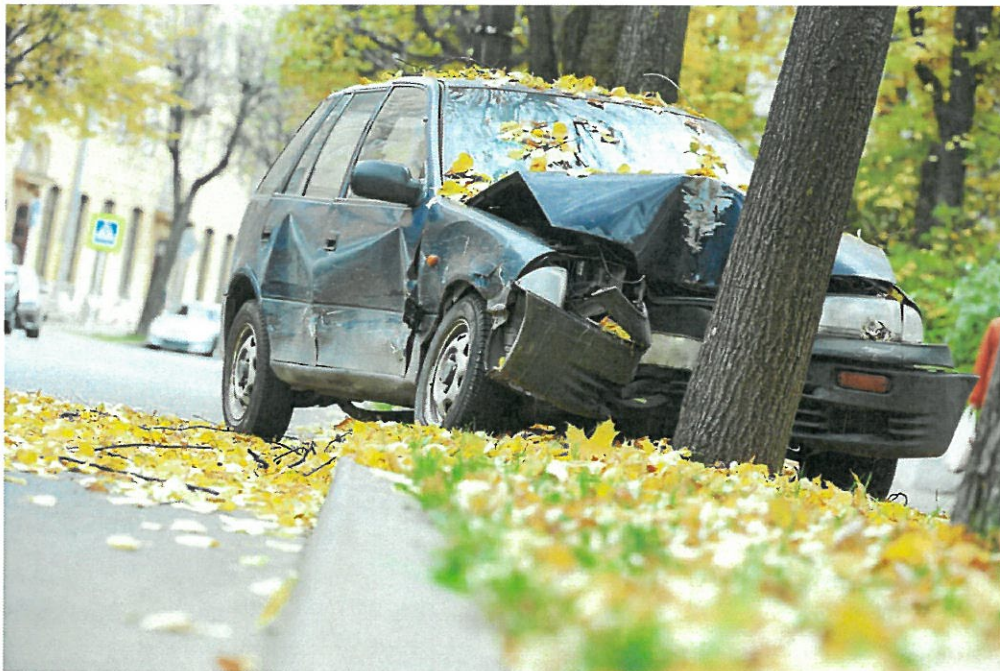


Blackburn Romey employees Vonnie Harden (back left), Ashley Kerl (middle), Alicia Johnson (front left) and Lisa Jackson (front right) visit with the three Fort Wayne firefighters who showed up and made sure there was no threat of fire to the Blackburn Romey offices or employees.





Winners of the Blackburn Romey October costume contest included (from top): Jennifer Pasick and her son, Brandon, as "The Price is Right" contestants won both Most Creative and Best Partners; Alicia Johnson as Elton John won Best Overall and Annette Hyland as The Creeper won Scariest.



Autumn Crash Causes: What Drivers Should Know

Autumn in Indiana brings beautiful scenery, cooler air, and new hazards for motorists. With the changing season comes a shift in road conditions that can

make driving riskier than most realize. Drivers should stay alert to **autumn car crash causes** such as wet leaves, deer activity, and reduced daylight hours. The season also increases fog, frost, and unpredictable traffic patterns, creating extra challenges for motorists who commute daily across both city streets and rural highways.

At [Blackburn Romey](#), we know how seasonal shifts complicate accident claims, and we understand how important it is for Indiana drivers to prepare carefully for these unique risks.

How Seasonal Changes Contribute to Car Accidents

Fall is a transitional season, and that means roads change from warm and dry to cold and wet within weeks. Temperature fluctuations can create early morning frost, fog, or sudden rain that leads to slick pavement. Leaves falling from trees not only block lanes but also hide road markings and potholes.

These changes are not minor inconveniences. They directly raise the likelihood of collisions, especially when combined with heavier traffic from school and holiday travel. Drivers should recognize these hazards as some of the leading **autumn car crash** causes and adjust their habits accordingly.

Many autumn [car accidents](#) result from poor visibility tied to shorter daylight hours and fog, slick pavement from wet leaves or early ice, and increased wildlife activity during deer season. On top of these risks, heavier back-to-school traffic, strong sunlight from the lower autumn sun, and the added distractions of holiday travel all contribute to more frequent crashes in this season.



Wet Leaves, Rain, and Slippery Roads

Wet leaves on pavement act almost like ice. When tires lose traction, stopping distance increases, and vehicles may slide into intersections or rear-end other cars. Rain can worsen this problem, especially during the first few minutes of a storm when oil and debris mix with water.

As noted by the [Indiana Driver's Manual Chapter 7](#), roadway surfaces can become dangerously slick immediately after rainfall, increasing the risk of accidents.

Early frosts in autumn also create dangerous conditions on bridges and overpasses, which freeze faster than other parts of the roadway. A simple patch of black ice in October can be just as treacherous as a snowstorm in January. Recognizing these dangers highlights why **autumn car crash causes** remain a consistent threat year after year. Many of the [Most Common Types of Car Accidents in Indiana](#), such as rear-end and intersection collisions, tend to increase during these conditions.

The Impact of Shorter Days and Sun Glare

With daylight fading earlier, more commuters spend time driving in darkness. Reduced visibility makes it harder to see pedestrians, cyclists, or wildlife along rural roads. Headlights should always be tested as autumn begins to ensure they provide enough illumination.

Another overlooked hazard is sun glare. In the fall, the sun sits lower in the sky during busy commuting hours, sending bright light directly across the windshield. Glare can temporarily blind drivers and contribute to crashes at intersections. Clean windshields and working visors are simple defenses that help reduce this risk.

Deer Season and Increased Wildlife Collisions in Indiana

Indiana is known for high deer activity during autumn, particularly October through December. During these months, mating and hunting season drive deer closer to roadways, and collisions spike. Rural counties see the highest concentration of crashes, but suburban drivers are not immune.

These collisions often occur at dawn and dusk, when visibility is already low.

According to the [Indiana Department of Natural Resources](#) (DNR), deer may be especially difficult to see or avoid during unfavorable road conditions such as fog, rain, or icy weather, making it important for drivers to allow additional stopping time to reduce the risk of collisions.

Motorists should slow down in marked deer zones and remain alert in wooded or agricultural areas. Wildlife collisions are among the most dangerous **autumn car crash causes**, since they can cause sudden swerves and multi-vehicle pileups.



Preparing Your Vehicle for Fall Driving Conditions

A few preventive steps make a major difference in autumn driving safety. Check tire tread and pressure, since cooler weather reduces air levels. Replace worn windshield wipers to handle heavy rain and falling leaves. Ensure brakes are responsive, and keep washer fluid filled.

Carrying an emergency kit with blankets, a flashlight, and nonperishable snacks is smart, especially for longer drives. Preparing early can help drivers handle sudden weather changes and reduce their chances of becoming another seasonal statistic. These measures may also reduce exposure to the most common **autumn car crash causes** that threaten drivers,

Steps To Take After an Autumn Car Accident

Even with precautions, crashes still occur. The steps taken immediately afterward can impact both safety and any potential claim:

- Pull over safely and call emergency services.
- Exchange information with other drivers.
- Use your phone to document the scene, noting road conditions like wet leaves, glare, or wildlife crossings.
- Seek medical evaluation even if injuries seem minor, since some conditions surface hours later.
- Report the accident to your insurer, but be mindful when describing fault until the situation is fully reviewed.

After handling these immediate steps, it is also important to contact an attorney to better understand your rights and responsibilities. Taking this action not only helps you protect yourself legally but also ensures you have support when navigating the aftermath of a crash.

When To Contact a Car Accident Lawyer in Indiana

Drivers always should contact a car accident lawyer in Indiana after an accident and especially when injuries, disputed liability, or significant damages are involved. Insurance companies may attempt to limit payouts, and having legal guidance ensures your rights are protected.

Timing matters. Getting legal guidance early can help you feel more informed and supported as you move forward after a crash. Our team at [Blackburn Romey](#) provides legal support for individuals navigating the aftermath of

seasonal collisions, including those tied to **autumn car crash causes** that make Indiana roads dangerous this time of year.

Call us today at **833-FOR-HELP** to schedule a consultation and learn how we can help protect your rights, answer your questions, and guide you carefully through the next important steps.

You've Been Booed!



Blackburn Romey staff embraced the Halloween Spirit and shared their appreciation with fellow staff members. The attorneys also got a nice surprise with their very own Boo Basket from all the BR employees. Top photo, from left: Vonnie Harden, David Singleton, Tom Blackburn, Ryan Lindinger and Chad Romey got booed. At bottom, some of the Blackburn Romey staff show off their Boo'd baskets.

Got Questions?

We have the answers

- How can you tell if the driver of a large truck can see you?
- Can you sue someone for a car accident in Indiana?
- What is considered a jackknife accident?
- What are the chances of winning a personal injury lawsuit?



Google Reviews



Casey Kolkman



★★★★★ 11 months ago

Understanding that these types of cases often take time to resolve, I was pleased with the communication and assistance given to me, especially from Tammy McClish. She always responded quickly to my questions, was helpful and professional. My lawyer, Chad Romey, was available, when needed, and was also helpful and professional. I recommend Blackburn and Romey to anyone in need of legal representation for a car accident!



PUMPKIN DECORATING WINNERS included (from left): Ashley Kerl won for her creative tomato pin cushion pumpkin; Laura Miller won for her wicked witch in a cauldron pumpkin and Holly Irwin won for her amphibious "Frog Pad" pumpkin.



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