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# BLACKBURN **ROMEY**

TRUSTED INJURY LAWYERS

**MARCH 2026**



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



Denise and Tom Blackburn are shown at a past HOPE Center banquet. Blackburn Romey is a sponsor of the organization. Based on their "Giving Back to Indiana" records, the firm has donated \$26,000 to A Hope Center in the past three years.

# The Center That Offers HOPE

A HOPE Center, a faith-based, non-profit organization in Fort Wayne, offers free, confidential services for pregnancy and relationships, including tests, ultrasounds, and education. With multiple locations in Fort Wayne and Columbia City, [A HOPE Center](#) will hold its annual HOPE banquet on Tuesday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Avenue.

Matt Hammitt, former lead singer of Sanctus Real and writer of the powerful song "Lead Me," will be the guest speaker.



Doors open at 5:30 p.m. To register to attend the event, visit [A HOPE Center's website](#).

A HOPE Centers are located at several locations, including:

- 3630 Hobson Rd., Fort Wayne; Call: (260) 422-3544
- 3702 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne; Call: (260) 969-4357
- Columbia City, 302 W. Van Buren St., Suite 102; Call: (260) 244-7779



## What to Do After an E-Bike Accident

E-bike accidents often blend the exposure of a traditional bicycle with the speed and force of motor vehicle traffic, increasing the risk of serious injury in ways many riders do not expect. Electric assistance allows higher speeds, heavier

frames raise impact force, and riders lack the structural protection drivers rely on during a crash.

At [Blackburn Romey](#), we see how an ebike accident can disrupt health, finances, and daily life in seconds on Indiana roads where cars, trucks, and cyclists share limited space. Knowing **what to do after an e-bike accident** helps riders protect their well-being and avoid missteps that affect recovery and accountability.

## Immediate Steps to Take After an E-Bike Accident

The moments following an ebike accident can feel overwhelming, making a clear sequence of actions especially important.

Safety comes first, so moving to a secure location away from traffic reduces the risk of secondary injuries. Calling 911 right away matters even when pain feels manageable, since concussions, internal bleeding, and spinal injuries often appear hours or days later. A police response also creates an official record, which becomes critical when insurance companies review the crash.



After addressing immediate danger, riders should focus on preserving information and protecting their position. Anyone trying to understand what to do after an e-bike accident should take the following steps in order:

1. Seek medical evaluation immediately, either through emergency transport or a same-day provider visit.
2. Report the collision to law enforcement when injuries or property damage occur.
3. Photograph vehicle positions, road conditions, visible injuries, and damage to the electric bike.
4. Collect names and contact information from witnesses and involved drivers.
5. Preserve the e-bike, helmet, and clothing without repairs or alterations.
6. Exchange required information calmly without admitting fault or speculating about the cause.

According to [Indiana Code § 9-26-1-1.1](#), drivers involved in injury accidents must remain at the scene, provide identifying information, and offer reasonable assistance to injured parties. Following these requirements helps prevent disputes later, especially when insurers question whether details were exchanged properly.

## **Why E-Bike Accidents Can Cause Serious Injuries**

Electric bicycles offer efficiency and convenience, yet design features and riding environments raise injury risks beyond those associated with traditional bikes. These factors explain why many ebike accident claims involve extensive medical treatment and prolonged recovery.

### **Speed, Weight, and Limited Protection**

Electric motors allow riders to reach higher speeds with less effort, while battery systems add weight, increasing stopping distance. Indiana law recognizes three classes of electric bicycles, including Class 3 models capable of assisted speeds up to 28 miles per hour. The [Indiana Department of Natural Resources e-bike rules](#) explain how these classifications control where and how electric bicycles operate, and why higher-speed classes increase injury severity in crashes.

### **Traffic Interaction With Motor Vehicles**

E-bike riders frequently share lanes and intersections with vehicles weighing several thousand pounds. A brief distraction, failure to yield, or misjudgment of speed often leaves the rider absorbing the full impact. Even moderate-speed collisions can throw riders onto pavement or nearby objects, leading to fractures, head trauma, and spinal injuries.

### **Road Hazards and Infrastructure Risks**

Uneven pavement, potholes, debris, and poorly marked bike lanes pose serious dangers for electric bikes traveling at assisted speeds. A surface defect that barely affects a car tire can cause sudden loss of control for an e-bike rider, which explains why Indiana road conditions contribute to many e-bike accidents.

### **Treatment & Documentation**

Medical care drives recovery after an ebike accident and creates records insurers rely on when evaluating injury claims. Emergency room visits, imaging studies, specialist referrals, and physical therapy notes help connect injuries directly to the crash and show how symptoms affect mobility, work capacity, and daily life.

Insurance companies closely review medical records, especially when injuries are not immediately visible. Clear documentation showing how symptoms developed and required treatment makes a meaningful difference. Records that

typically carry the most weight include:

- Emergency room or urgent care records created shortly after the crash.
  - Diagnostic imaging results, such as X-rays, CT scans, or MRIs.
  - Physician notes linking symptoms to the collision.
  - Follow-up treatment plans, therapy records, and specialist referrals.

- Notes explaining gaps in care or changes in symptoms over time. Delayed symptoms often lead riders to postpone care and understanding **what to do after an e-bike accident** includes



recognizing how these gaps in treatment allow insurers to question whether injuries stem from the collision. Consistent documentation strengthens both physical recovery and credibility during a claim.

## Protecting Your Legal Rights

Legal protection begins with informed decisions in the days following an ebike accident. Insurance adjusters often contact injured riders quickly, hoping to secure early statements or settlements before the full scope of injuries becomes clear. Providing basic identifying information remains appropriate, while discussing fault or minimizing symptoms rarely benefits a claim. Evidence preservation plays a central role at this stage. Photographs, witness statements, medical records, and damaged equipment together explain how the crash occurred. Riders who are unsure **what to do after an e-bike accident** should avoid repairing or discarding the electric bike until documentation is complete. Early legal guidance can help organize evidence and manage communication with insurers during a stressful time.

## How Liability Is Determined

Liability in ebike accident claims depends on identifying which party breached a duty of care. Drivers who speed, drive distracted, fail to yield, or violate traffic laws often bear responsibility when they strike an e-bike rider. In some situations, roadway defects or unsafe property conditions shift responsibility toward municipalities or landowners.

Indiana follows a modified comparative fault system, which means compensation depends on each party's percentage of responsibility. Evidence gathered early often shapes how insurers and courts assign fault, especially when multiple factors contribute to a collision.

## Getting Legal Guidance

When confusion sets in after a crash, knowing **what to do after an e-bike accident** often feels overwhelming. Our team helps injured riders push back against insurer pressure, organize evidence, and protect their rights under Indiana law.

At **Blackburn Romey**, we stand up for cyclists when negligence causes harm and guide clients through each step with clarity and purpose. **Call 833-FOR-HELP** to talk through your situation and get straightforward direction on what comes next.

## Got Questions?

*We've got the answers*

- [What happens if both drivers share fault?](#)
- [What evidence helps a car accident claim?](#)
- [Top causes of single vehicle crashes](#)
- [Do you know the most dangerous dog breeds?](#)



## Google Reviews



Casey Kolkman  
1 review



★★★★★ 4 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!



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# BLACKBURN **ROMEY**

TRUSTED INJURY LAWYERS

Talk to one of our attorneys today!

Free initial consultation

Fee based upon recovery

**Call 833-FOR-HELP**

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