Siam Legal Phuket Advises on Motorcycle Accident Risks and Legal Rights Amid Road Safety Crisis

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Siam Legal Phuket has issued guidance for foreign nationals and visitors on motorcycle accident risks and post-accident legal procedures following Thailand's concerning road safety statistics during the 2026 New Year period, which recorded approximately 272 deaths and more than 1,300 injuries nationwide.

The legal advisory comes as Bangkok recorded the highest number of road fatalities during the holiday period, with motorcycles involved in nearly 70 percent of all reported crashes. Authorities identified speeding and reckless driving as the leading causes of accidents, often resulting in both civil liability and criminal consequences under Thai law.

"Many accident victims lose their right to compensation simply because they are unfamiliar with Thai legal procedures or fail to document incidents properly," said Omar O Manee, representative at Siam Legal Phuket. "Understanding the correct steps immediately following an accident can mean the difference between receiving full compensation and bearing significant financial losses."

The firm emphasizes that accident victims should never leave the scene, regardless of the severity of the damage. Essential immediate actions include contacting emergency medical services at 1669 if injuries are involved, photographing the accident scene, vehicles, injuries, and surrounding conditions, and notifying insurance providers promptly. Reporting to the police via 191 or the Tourist Police at 1155 remains crucial for insurance claims and any subsequent legal proceedings.

Insurance and compensation issues often complicate the aftermath of motorcycle accidents. Many victims lack valid insurance coverage or submit claims incorrectly, resulting in denied or reduced compensation. Even when insurance coverage exists, delayed reporting or incomplete documentation can often undermine otherwise legitimate claims.

Under Thailand's Civil and Commercial Code, parties responsible for causing accidents may face liability for injuries and damages. Victims may seek compensation for medical expenses, lost income, rehabilitation costs, and property damage. Traffic law violations can trigger criminal charges, including fines or imprisonment, with civil compensation claims proceeding alongside criminal cases.

The Phuket law firm notes that motorcycle accidents frequently escalate into complex legal disputes, particularly when serious injuries, criminal allegations, or insurance disagreements arise. Common procedural mistakes include failing to obtain police reports, accepting informal settlements without proper documentation, and missing critical filing deadlines.

Thai courts often encourage mediation before trial, though legal representation becomes essential when disputes cannot be resolved through negotiations or when foreign nationals face language barriers and unfamiliarity with the Thai legal system. The firm has observed that accidents involving tourists and expatriates often involve additional complications related to visa status, international insurance policies, and cross-border legal considerations.

Siam Legal Phuket brings over two decades of experience assisting foreign nationals with legal matters throughout Thailand. The firm provides comprehensive legal services, including accident claim processing, insurance coordination, and representation in both civil and criminal proceedings. Their expertise extends to property law, immigration services, family law, and business registration, serving both local and international clients requiring legal solutions in Thailand.

The firm encourages all motorcycle riders and potential accident victims to familiarize themselves with Thai legal rights and procedures in advance, emphasizing that early awareness and proper legal guidance can

significantly influence the outcomes of accident-related claims and disputes.

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Siam Legal Phuket

Siam Legal Phuket provides litigation, immigration, family law, contract drafting, real estate conveyancing, and corporate services. Our lawyers assist foreign clients with effective, cost-efficient legal strategies in Southern Thailand.

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