

# Rules of the Road for Cyclists

What a cyclist should do if involved in a collision



Representing Injured Cyclists with Insurance Claims

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## Know Your Cycling Rights

### Texas Transportation Code [paraphrased]:

§551.101(a) - A bicyclist has the **rights and duties** of motor vehicle, unless by their nature they cannot apply to a bicyclist.

§551.103(a) - A bicyclist moving slower than traffic shall ride near the right edge the roadway, unless the lane is too narrow for a bike and car, then the cyclist can take the whole lane.

§551.103(c) - Bicyclists may ride two abreast if not impeding the flow of traffic on the roadway.

§551.104(b) - At night, (1) a front white light visible 500' and (2) a rear red reflector visible with headlamps on highbeams on from 50' to 300', or a red lamp on the rear visible from the distance of 500'.

§545.058(c)(3) - Bikes are exempted from the general prohibition against driving on shoulders.

### Austin City Code/University of TX Regs

§12-2-13, UT Regs - A bike can be ridden on a sidewalk except on the UT Drag, on UT sidewalks, and most of the central business district in downtown Austin.

§12-1-35 - When road conditions allow, cars and light trucks must give bikes 3 feet when passing; big trucks 6 feet.

## What to do if you are hit on your bike?

- Don't move, you may have a spinal injury.
- Call EMS and the police.
- When in doubt, **take** the ambulance!
- Wait for the police to arrive unless you are transported by EMS.
- Obtain the driver's name, address, phone #, driver's license # and license plate #.
- Obtain all witness's names, addresses, phone #'s, and license plates #'s if applicable.
- **Get your version of the events into the Police Crash Report.**
- Document what happened, take camera phone pictures of the scene, the car involved, license plate of the car, and the driver.
- Document your injuries by taking photographs of your injuries.
- Preserve evidence, like your bike, damaged clothes, **HELMET**, etc.
- Do not fix your bike or take it to a shop until you speak with an attorney first.
- **DO NOT talk to the driver's insurance company before talking to an attorney.**

