



UCSF Shuttle Bus Accident Kills One Person And Injures Four People

by Injury Attorneys Sacramento on 07/20/11

A **San Francisco accident** killed one person and hurt four other people on Thursday Hayes Valley neighborhood. The accident involving UCSF shuttle bus and a big rig was caused by the shuttle running a red light.

The fatal accident occurred at Octavia and Oak streets at 6:20 a.m. when a 2007 Peterbilt tractor-trailer truck transporting four cars collided with the Ford shuttle bus taking UCSF employees to San Francisco General Hospital. The truck was traveling north on Octavia and the shuttle bus was heading east on Oak when the collision happened. One of the passengers of the bus Dr. Kevin Allen Mack, was ejected from the vehicle and was pinned underneath the big rig. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Three of the 15 people on the shuttle bus sustained non-life-threatening injuries. The shuttle bus driver suffered minor injuries. The big-rig driver was unhurt. The shuttle bus did not have seat belts. The San Francisco accident remains under investigation.

Nothing is more devastating than losing a loved one, especially if it is unexpected and as the result of someone's negligence. The law provides that certain family members, usually a spouse, child or parent, have the right to recover compensation for certain losses if someone is liable for causing another person's death. These losses include both economic and non-economic damages. The most significant economic loss recoverable in a **wrongful death claim** is typically the loss of financial support and other benefits that the deceased would have provided in his or her lifetime to the person making the claim. Other damages include the loss of love, support and companionship of the deceased person.

As common carriers, buses are held to a higher standard when it comes to providing safety during transportation. Although this San Francisco injury accident remains under investigation, initial reports indicate the bus driver was responsible for causing the collision. If so, the bus driver and his employer, a public entity, are legally responsible to each of the injury victims for their medical expenses, lost income and pain and suffering.

In California, persons injured due to the negligence of an employee of a public entity must act quickly. California law requires that someone claiming damages against a public entity or its employee must file a claim for damages with that entity within six (6) months. Once the claim has been rejected by that entity, which is typical, the statute of limitations for filing a lawsuit can be as short as six (6) months from the date of rejection. Because these claims processes are complicated, it's a good idea to at least consult with a personal injury attorney with experience dealing with the governmental tort claims process.

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All injured victims in accidents involving a governmental or public entity like this are strongly urged to consult with an experienced **Sacramento Personal Injury Attorney** to protect their rights. An experienced auto accident lawyer should also advise victims about how their car insurance policy or other insurance policies may apply to the incident.

*The **Demas & Rosenthal** personal injury law firm is not currently representing anyone mentioned in this article at the time it was posted. If you were involved in this incident or a similar incident and have questions as to your legal rights and options, call us or another well recognized and respected personal injury law firm. Please do not rely or act solely upon the information provided in this article. Please consider getting a consultation immediately. The **best personal injury law firms** will provide a free consultation.*