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June 2, 2010

## Police Suspect DUI in Baltimore Crash that Killed 6-Year-Old Boy

Police often set up sobriety checkpoints for Memorial Day weekend, just as they do for many other holidays, in an effort to reduce the number of intoxicated drivers. As any Maryland DUI lawyer can tell you, Memorial Day weekend often sees an increase in arrests for driving under the influence. This Memorial Day weekend in Baltimore, a single vehicle crash claimed the life of a 6-year-old passenger and injured seven others. Police investigators have said that speed and "possibly alcohol" were factors in the fatal wreck.

According to Baltimore police, the accident occurred at about 6:00 p.m. Sunday evening, when the SUV involved crossed the median on Perring Parkway and went airborne, flipping several times. Eight occupants of the SUV were thrown from the vehicle. All eight were treated at the scene and hospitalized with varying degrees of fractures, cuts, and bruises; some had lifethreatening injuries. A 6-year-old boy died at the hospital.

Police report that most of the SUV's occupants were teenagers, although the youngest passenger appeared to be 4 or 5 years old.

At this time, police have not conclusively found that the driver of the SUV was driving under the influence of alcohol; however, they do suspect that alcohol was a factor in the crash. Under Maryland DUI law, the consequences of a DUI conviction are more severe if the convicted driver was transporting a minor while he or she was driving under the influence. If the driver is arrested and charged with DUI, a Maryland DUI attorney will help him or her understand the penalties associated with a conviction and will help protect the client's rights throughout the legal proceedings.