

# Can a Failure to Use a Seatbelt Be Held Against Me in a Baltimore Personal Injury Lawsuit?

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Seatbelts have been shown to dramatically reduce the risk of injury during a serious Baltimore car accident. In addition, Maryland state law requires all drivers and all front seat passengers to wear a seat belt at all times.

However, whether or not you were wearing one has no effect on a [Baltimore personal injury lawsuit](#). In other words, failing to wear your seat, while ill advised, cannot be used against you, even under Maryland's contributory negligence standard.

Maryland seatbelt law, Maryland Transportation Code Ann. § 22-412.3 (2010), specifically states that failure of an individual to use a seat belt may not:

- Be considered evidence of negligence;
- Be considered evidence of contributory negligence;
- Limit liability of a party or an insurer; or
- Diminish recovery for damages arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or operation of a motor vehicle.

The rationale is that the failure to wear a seatbelt is unrelated to the cause of the accident. Therefore, if you are able to prove that the other driver's negligence caused the crash, you will be entitled to receive compensation for any and all injuries sustained in the accident, regardless of whether you were wearing a seatbelt.

*The Baltimore accident attorneys of [Hyatt & Weber, P.A.](#) understand the potentially devastating impact of a medical mistake. If you or someone you love has been injured due to someone else's negligence, we are here to help. Our Baltimore injury attorneys are experienced and dedicated to pursuing the compensation you deserve.*

*To better understand your rights, contact us today at [leads@hwlaw.com](mailto:leads@hwlaw.com) or 410-777-5707 for a free consultation.*