

Press Information for Immediate Release

Serious Injuries From E-Scooter & E-Bike Accidents Expected to Rise Sharply in NYC

[New York, NY, October 2021] NYC-based Personal Injury Lawyers, Buzin & Berman, are warning that the proliferation of individual e-bikes and e-scooters, combined with the lack of road traffic law enforcement, will lead to a rapid increase in accidents and injuries.

Citi bikes have recently added an electric option and companies like Unagi are offering low-cost monthly rental programs for e-scooters that would otherwise cost nearly \$1,000. This has led to a massive increase in their usage as NYC emerges from the pandemic. While road traffic is nearly back to pre-pandemic levels, subway riders have been hesitant, preferring instead to ride around the boroughs with alternative means of transportation. Additionally, with the increase in food delivery services, e-bike deliveries have also increased.

Mitch Berman, Attorney, and native New Yorker commented: "The proliferation by itself would be of concern, but combined with the apparent lack of road traffic law enforcement of these vehicles in the New York metro area, will almost certainly be a catalyst to a rise in accidents.

Bicyclists have routinely ignored traffic laws for many years in New York, but now with the increase in ridership, as well as speeding on sidewalks and through red lights is effectively turbo-charging the likelihood of accidents. Riders, pedestrians, and other motorists are all set to suffer the consequences, as speeds increase and drivers have new obstacles to avoid."

In 2018 there were 1,800 reported collisions involving bikes and scooters, which led to serious injuries, and that was before electric batteries delivered a new mode of transport. The growing popularity of bike-sharing programs around New York City will be key, but as Heath Buzin says: "The importance of obeying the road traffic laws, especially red lights and side-walk riding cannot be overstated. It is therefore very important to remain vigilant while walking, driving, or using an e-bike or e-scooter. If you have been involved in an accident, you should seek legal counsel as soon as possible after sustaining an injury."

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Notes for editors:

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