

# Why Car Accidents Are the Leading Cause of Facial Injuries in Georgia

## Understanding How Crash Victims Suffer Visible and Lasting Trauma After Facial Injuries

A violent [car accident](#) can change your life in seconds. For some Georgia crash victims, that change is not only physical but also visible, etched permanently into the face they show the world. From broken noses and fractured jaws to deep facial lacerations, burns, and permanent scarring, these injuries carry both physical pain and emotional trauma that often outlast the crash itself.

Facial injuries are among the most devastating injuries a person can suffer in a motor vehicle accident. The damage is not just skin deep. These injuries often require surgery, involve long recoveries, and leave victims struggling with everything from eating and breathing to self-image and depression. In severe cases, [disfigurement](#) can permanently alter a person's ability to work, interact socially, or live without pain.

At the [Law Offices of Gary Martin Hays & Associates, P.C.](#), our car accident lawyers represent crash victims across Georgia who have suffered serious facial trauma. We know what it takes to hold negligent drivers and insurance companies accountable, and we understand the uphill battle victims face when their injuries are both visible and life-changing.

## How Facial Injuries Happen in Georgia Car Crashes

Facial trauma occurs in all types of crashes, including [rear-end collisions](#), [head-on crashes](#), and [intersection accidents](#). In many cases, the face is exposed to direct impact with steering wheels, dashboards, windshields, or airbags. Broken glass, sharp metal, and high-speed forces increase the likelihood of serious injury.

The most common causes of facial injuries in Georgia car accidents include:

- Deployment of airbags at high velocity
- Striking the steering wheel or dashboard
- Flying glass from shattered windshields or side windows
- Ejection from the vehicle
- Impact with the ground in motorcycle or pedestrian crashes

These forces can result in lacerations, bone fractures, nerve damage, dental trauma, and soft-tissue injuries. Facial burns may also occur in cases involving fires, airbag friction, or spilled chemicals.

## Types of Facial Injuries Seen After Georgia Car Accidents

Facial injuries are often classified into several categories based on the tissue involved. Each type comes with its own treatment challenges and long-term consequences.

- **Fractures:** Breaks to the nose, jaw, cheekbones (zygomatic bones), orbital sockets, or skull. Jaw fractures can interfere with eating, speaking, and alignment. Broken noses may require reconstructive rhinoplasty.
- **Lacerations and Scars:** Deep cuts may result in nerve damage, blood loss, and permanent scarring. Repairs often require layered stitching and plastic surgery.
- **Dental Injuries:** Chipped, cracked, or knocked-out teeth. Extensive damage may affect the jawbone or require dental implants.
- **Burns:** Airbag deployment can cause chemical or friction burns, especially if a person is too close when it deploys. Fires or explosions can lead to more severe thermal burns.
- **Soft-Tissue Damage:** Swelling, bruising, and trauma to the lips, eyes, and facial muscles. These can be painful and disfiguring even without bone involvement.

In more severe cases, victims may suffer a combination of these injuries, requiring coordinated care between trauma surgeons, maxillofacial specialists, and plastic surgeons.

### **Surgery and Recovery After Facial Trauma**

Facial trauma often requires multiple surgeries. Initial procedures focus on emergency repair, including stabilizing fractures, stopping bleeding, and cleaning wounds to minimize the risk of infection. Later surgeries typically seek to restore function and appearance.

Common procedures include:

- Open reduction and internal fixation (ORIF) for facial fractures
- Facial reconstruction using bone grafts or plates
- Skin grafting for burn injuries
- Rhinoplasty or septoplasty after a broken nose
- Dental restoration, implants, or bone realignment

Recovery is long and emotionally taxing. Patients may face swelling, limited movement, dietary restrictions, and social withdrawal. Pain management, physical therapy, and mental health support are often needed for a full recovery. Unfortunately, insurance companies rarely factor these long-term needs into their initial settlement offers.

### **The Emotional Toll of Disfigurement After a Crash**

Unlike internal injuries, facial trauma is immediately visible and often impossible to hide. Victims may avoid mirrors, public outings, or even loved ones during recovery. [Studies](#)

have linked facial disfigurement to higher rates of depression, anxiety, PTSD, and social isolation. Teens and young adults are especially vulnerable to body-image issues and bullying.

The emotional effects are not just about looks. A disfigured face can significantly impact confidence during job interviews, in relationships, or when speaking in public. Victims may also struggle with eating, breathing, or speaking clearly, depending on the area of damage.

In many Georgia car accident claims, emotional damages tied to facial injuries can be just as significant as physical ones. That is why documenting psychological trauma through therapist records, journal entries, and witness statements can help increase the value of your case.

### **How Insurance Companies Minimize Facial Injury Claims**

Despite the obvious trauma facial injuries cause, insurers often try to reduce the value of these claims. They may argue that:

- Scarring is “minor” and purely cosmetic
- Surgery was elective rather than medically necessary
- Emotional distress is exaggerated or unrelated to the crash
- Disfigurement does not impact the victim’s ability to earn a living

These tactics are not just insulting—they are calculated. Insurance adjusters know that facial injuries are difficult to quantify. Pain, embarrassment, and identity loss are not always reflected in medical bills. But that does not make them any less real.

At Gary Martin Hays & Associates, our car accident attorneys know how to counter these strategies. We work with medical and psychological experts to build a full picture of the damage done. We present detailed [life-care plans](#), treatment timelines, and expert testimony to ensure every consequence, physical and emotional, is accounted for in your demand.

### **Calculating the Value of a Facial Injury Claim in Georgia**

There is no simple formula for valuing facial injury claims. However, several factors influence the outcome:

- **Severity And Location Of The Injury:** Scarring on highly visible areas like the nose, lips, or eyes tends to be more impactful.
- **Need For Surgery Or Long-Term Treatment:** Multiple procedures or permanent implants raise costs and support higher compensation.

- **Age And Occupation Of The Victim:** Younger victims or those in appearance-based jobs (sales, media, entertainment) may suffer greater financial and psychological harm.
- **Evidence Of Emotional Distress:** Documented therapy sessions, medications, or psychiatric diagnoses can increase non-economic damages.
- **Disruption To Daily Life:** Difficulty eating, speaking, or maintaining relationships adds to the claim's overall value.

Because facial injury claims often include large non-economic components, they are more likely to be contested. Having a car accident lawyer experienced in serious injury claims is critical to protect your rights and maximize your recovery.

### **The Legal Process in Facial Injury Cases**

After a serious crash, we recommend starting the legal process as soon as possible. Delays can lead to the loss of evidence, fading memories, or missed deadlines. We immediately begin:

- Investigating the crash scene and police report
- Obtaining medical records and surgical evaluations
- Documenting visible injuries with photo evidence
- Consulting with facial trauma and plastic surgery experts
- Gathering witness and family testimony about the emotional impact

In many cases, the insurance company will offer a low settlement early, hoping you will take it before realizing the full extent of your injuries. Do not accept anything without legal advice. Once you settle, you cannot go back, even if new surgeries or psychological needs arise.

### **Our Perspective: Every Face Tells a Story, and Every Story Deserves Justice**

Facial trauma cases often fall through the cracks in our legal system. Why? Because the damage can be hard to measure and even harder to explain. It is not like a broken bone that heals in six weeks. It is a slow, painful process that touches every part of a person's identity.

That is why these cases matter. They remind us that justice is not just about money. It's about recognizing what someone has lost, what they have endured, and what they will carry with them for the rest of their life. At our law firm, we do not treat facial injury claims as secondary. We treat them as a central part of the fight for fair compensation and long-term healing.

Your face is part of who you are. When that is taken from you, someone needs to be held accountable for it.

## **Let Our Georgia Car Accident Lawyers Fight for You**

If you or someone you love suffered a facial injury in a Georgia car accident, do not face the insurance company alone. Whether you are dealing with scarring, broken bones, or the trauma of looking in the mirror and not recognizing yourself, our legal team is here to help.

At the Law Offices of Gary Martin Hays & Associates, P.C., we build powerful cases that reflect the full impact of serious injuries. We know the medicine, the tactics, and the path to justice.

[Contact us today](#) for a free consultation. Let us stand with you and help you face what comes next.