

# Rideshare Sexual Assault Cases in Georgia

## Holding Rideshare Companies Accountable and Protecting Victims' Rights

Rideshare services like Uber and Lyft have become a part of everyday life in Georgia. From late-night rides after concerts in Atlanta to quick trips home from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, rideshare platforms promise convenience and safety. But for some passengers, that promise is tragically broken. Sexual assault during rideshare trips has become an alarming issue nationwide, and Georgia has not been spared.

If you or someone you love has been assaulted by a rideshare driver, you're not alone. Survivors deserve justice, and our team at the [Law Offices of Gary Martin Hays & Associates, P.C.](#) is committed to fighting for your rights. Our Georgia rideshare assault attorneys know how to investigate these cases, hold negligent companies accountable, and pursue the maximum compensation survivors deserve.

## The Growing Problem of Rideshare Sexual Assault

Rideshare companies promote safety as a core feature of their platforms, yet thousands of reports of sexual assault have surfaced in recent years. According to [Uber's own safety report](#), there were thousands of reported assaults nationwide between 2019 and 2020 alone. Lyft has faced similar scrutiny and lawsuits, with survivors accusing the company of failing to protect passengers despite repeated warnings.

In Georgia, where ridesharing is deeply embedded in transportation across metro Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, and Savannah, these cases are becoming increasingly visible. Survivors have reported a range of assaults, from unwanted touching to violent attacks, often happening in moments where passengers are vulnerable — late at night, unfamiliar with the area, or impaired after social events.

## How These Assaults Happen

Sexual assaults in rideshares often involve situations where riders trust that safety protocols are in place, but those safeguards fail. Some common scenarios include:

- **Inadequate Background Checks:** Rideshare platforms rely on automated screenings that may miss critical red flags in a driver's history.
- **Manipulated Safety Features:** Some drivers exploit system loopholes, such as using another person's account to bypass safety checks.
- **Predatory Situations:** Assaults often occur when a passenger is alone, intoxicated, or traveling in unfamiliar areas.
- **Failure to Act on Prior Complaints:** In some cases, survivors learn later that other passengers had reported inappropriate behavior before their incident, but the company failed to suspend or investigate the driver.

These gaps create conditions where preventable assaults occur, raising questions about corporate responsibility and passenger safety.

### **Who Can Be Held Liable in a Rideshare Assault Case?**

When a rideshare driver commits a sexual assault, the driver is directly responsible — but liability may not end there. Under Georgia law, companies can be held accountable when their negligence contributes to an assault.

An experienced Atlanta rideshare assault lawyer can pursue claims against multiple parties, such as:

- **The Driver:** For committing the assault or engaging in inappropriate conduct.
- **The Rideshare Company:** For failing to conduct adequate background checks, ignoring complaints, or creating unsafe policies.
- **Third Parties:** Property owners, bars, or parking facilities may also share liability if they failed to maintain safe premises where the assault occurred.

These cases require a thorough understanding of Georgia law, corporate liability, and how rideshare companies structure their policies to limit their liability. Our attorneys have decades of experience holding powerful companies accountable when negligence leads to life-altering harm.

### **What Tactics Do Rideshare Companies Use To Avoid Liability?**

Uber, Lyft, and other rideshare platforms often work aggressively to protect their reputations and financial interests. Survivors may encounter:

- Attempts to shift blame onto passengers
- Complex, one-sided arbitration clauses meant to block lawsuits
- Delays in releasing driver information or ride data
- Lowball settlement offers before victims understand the full value of their claims

We know these tactics because we've seen them firsthand in personal injury cases involving large corporations and insurance companies. At Gary Martin Hays & Associates, we level the playing field by putting resources and experience on your side from the start.

### **The Evidence That Can Build a Strong Case**

Sexual assault survivors deserve justice, and that starts with gathering critical evidence. Our legal team acts quickly to secure information before it disappears, which may include:

- **App Data:** Ride history, driver profiles, and company communications related to the trip.
- **Background Check Records:** Information on whether the driver should have been approved to work.

- **Camera Footage:** Security videos from nearby businesses, traffic cameras, or personal devices can corroborate details of the assault.
- **Medical Records:** Documenting injuries is crucial for both criminal investigations and civil claims.
- **Witness Statements:** Testimony from other passengers, bystanders, or prior victims strengthens your case.
- **Company Policies:** Internal records can reveal patterns of negligence, including ignored complaints or inadequate safety measures.

By moving quickly and thoroughly, our team builds strong, evidence-based cases that demand accountability.

### What Compensation Can Survivors Recover?

No amount of money can undo the harm that someone has suffered in a rideshare sexual assault, but compensation can help provide critical resources.

Survivors of rideshare sexual assault often face overwhelming physical, emotional, and financial consequences. A successful claim can provide compensation for:

- **Medical Care:** Emergency treatment, surgeries, ongoing therapy, and future medical needs
- **Counseling and Mental Health Support:** Recovery from trauma often requires extensive care
- **Lost Wages and Income:** Time missed from work due to physical or psychological recovery
- **Pain and Suffering:** The emotional impact of the assault and its lasting effects
- **Punitive Damages:** In cases involving gross negligence, Georgia law allows for damages meant to punish the company and deter future misconduct

Our goal is to help survivors regain control of their lives by securing resources that support long-term healing and recovery.

### Georgia's Laws on Sexual Assault and Civil Claims

Sexual assault is a crime in Georgia, and perpetrators can face significant prison sentences. However, survivors also have the right to file a civil lawsuit seeking financial compensation.

Key considerations for Georgia survivors include:

- **Statute of Limitations:** In most personal injury cases, you have two years from the date of the assault to file a civil claim, but exceptions may apply.
- **Negligent Hiring and Supervision:** If a company failed to properly vet or monitor a driver, they can be held liable for allowing a dangerous person access to passengers.

- **Independent Contractor Defense:** Rideshare companies often argue that drivers are independent contractors to avoid responsibility, but courts are increasingly challenging this defense.

Working with an attorney who understands these legal nuances is critical to protecting your rights and finding your way forward.

## Steps to Take After a Rideshare Assault

Survivors often feel overwhelmed and unsure of what to do next. Here are important steps to protect your health and legal rights:

1. **Get Medical Attention Immediately** – Seek treatment even if injuries aren't visible. Your health is your top priority, and medical records can also support your case.
2. **Report the Assault** – Notify law enforcement and file a report through the rideshare app, but refrain from discussing details with the company before consulting with an attorney.
3. **Preserve Evidence** – Save ride confirmations, driver information, clothing, and any messages related to the incident.
4. **Avoid Social Media** – Anything posted online can be used against you by the company's attorneys or insurers.
5. **Contact a Rideshare Assault Lawyer** – The sooner you involve an attorney, the stronger your case will be.

You are not alone, and you do not have to face powerful companies or insurers without support.

## Why Choose Gary Martin Hays & Associates?

Our firm has [recovered over \\$1 billion](#) for Georgia families, and we're recognized as one of the state's leading personal injury law firms. Survivors of rideshare sexual assault turn to us because:

- We have decades of experience fighting for victims of corporate negligence.
- We understand how Uber, Lyft, and other rideshare companies defend these cases.
- We move quickly to preserve evidence and protect survivors' rights.
- We treat every client with compassion, respect, and confidentiality.

When you choose our team, you're choosing a law firm that stands up to powerful corporations and doesn't back down until you get justice.

## Fighting for Justice and Change

These cases aren't just about compensation. They're about making rideshare platforms safer for everyone. By holding companies accountable, survivors drive real change, from improved driver vetting to stronger safety measures.

If you or someone you love has experienced sexual assault during a rideshare trip in Georgia, we're here to fight for you.

[Contact the Law Offices of Gary Martin Hays & Associates, P.C. today](#) for a free, confidential consultation. We'll explain your options, answer your questions, and take immediate steps to protect your rights.