

Recreational Boating Booms During the Pandemic- and So Do Boating Injuries

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Recreational boating, an activity that easily lends itself to social distancing, has soared in popularity since the pandemic began. According to the [National Marine Manufacturers Association](#), new boat sales hit their highest peak in 13 years in 2020 and online boat rental services have seen an increase in business as much as 700% in 2021.

With the increased interest in boating, we have seen a spike in boating related injuries. The U.S. Coast Guard [reports](#) that:

- 767 boating fatalities occurred in the United States in 2020, 25% higher than 2019
- The number of boating accidents increased 26%
- There were 25% more injured victims

In many cases, the injuries were caused by negligent boat operation, like traveling at excessive speeds, not paying attention, or alcohol use.

Tips for What to Do If You Have Been Injured in a Boating Accident

As with all personal injury matters, each case is very fact-specific. Generally, though, if you were injured due to someone's negligence, you can file a lawsuit in New Jersey to recover compensation for your injuries. Although boat insurance is not required in New Jersey, the boat's owner may have purchased a policy that can be reviewed to compensate you for your injuries caused by negligence.

Depending upon the facts of the boating accident, you may wonder if you have a legal right to recover for your injuries, and how that process begins. It is advisable to speak with an attorney as soon as possible to discuss whether an accident report has been filed, and with which entities, i.e., a boat

owner or lessor or water patrol/authority. A lawyer will help to assess boating accident injury expenses and/or property damage costs, and can discuss potential negligence or fault and the levels of compensation that might be available.

The attorneys at Einhorn Barbarito have experience handling [personal injury matters](#) involving boating accident injuries. Our philosophy is to let you focus on recovering while we manage the legal aspects. We can direct you to proper medical treatment, fully investigate your claim, and keep you informed as the case progresses. Importantly, you will not face legal bills because we take personal injury cases on a contingent fee basis, which means that we do not collect legal fees until you are compensated for your injuries. Call us today at 973-627-7300 for a free consultation.