

**Safe Riding Tips from a
Law Enforcement Perspective!
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When Del and I first met and the idea of writing a column for Biker Information Guide from a law enforcement perspective came up, I faced the possibility with a bit of trepidation. To me, sharing information on motorcycle safety is, in essence, giving safety advice. If you take that responsibility seriously the task should be daunting.

In my career I have responded to my share of motorcycle accidents. I recall vividly the first serious motorcycle accident I responded 3 decades ago. I didn't know it then but I would see the accident scenario played out many times. The cause of that accident 30 years ago was one of the most common causes of motorcycle crashes; failure of the rider to negotiate a turn.

Essentially, the rider started into a left hand sweeper. He entered the turn at a speed too great for the radius of the turn. The bike began to drift out, the left side peg began to scrape, the rider panicked grabbed a foot and handful of brake, the bike straightened up and the rider rode the bike right out of the turn. He struck a culvert on the side of the road and he and his motorcycle went airborne. He suffered severe injuries and has dealt with the side effects of that accident for 30 years. Don't let that happen to you.

The best tool at your disposal for accident avoidance is practice. But not just getting on and riding. Doing that is making another very common rider error. Not practicing with goals and objectives puts you at the mercy of your first year of riding. You may have ridden a motorcycle for 20 years. The question is, do you have 20 years of experience, or one year of experience repeated 20 times? For most riders it is the later.

What I hope to do in this column is provide answers to some of the basic questions of motorcycle safety and give tips and tricks on riding that will make you a better, and ultimately safer rider.

I invite you to join me here as we learn together the art of safe motorcycling. I invite your questions and comments at bpasero@sbcglobal.net. Your input will dictate the direction this column takes. Your questions will result in future columns so let's begin a dialogue.

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