

Top Causes of Boating Accidents

In Georgia



Inattention

Distracted driving on the roads is a huge problem, and it is no different on the water. Make sure your full attention is on the task at hand when you are behind the controls of any type of watercraft. You can't see what's under the water, and it may present your greatest danger. You can't hope to avoid disaster if you are distracted.



No Lookout

In all honesty, there will be a moment or two when you take your eyes off the water ahead. There will come a time when you are looking straight, and you miss seeing a hazard that is in your peripheral vision. This is why you need a reliable lookout. There should be a passenger on your boat who is tasked with the job of watching for dangers and hazards you may not see.



Inexperience

Operating a boat safely takes experience. The truth of the matter is that you will have to operate a boat multiple times before you become adept at handling all the hazards the water can throw at you. This means that you will be inexperienced for quite some time. Therefore, when you are first starting to practice your boat driving skills, make sure you take extra precaution while you're behind the wheel.



Speeding

It is crucial that you operate your boat at speeds that are safe for both your experience and the conditions of the water. When you operate at a safe speed, you have a better chance at reacting in time to the dangers and hazards that present themselves. Additionally, speeding puts you at a greater risk for colliding with other vessels, break walls and docks.



Intoxication

It is against the law in Georgia to operate a boat while you are intoxicated. You are considered intoxicated when your blood alcohol content reaches a concentration of 0.08 percent. It is not illegal to have an open container on a vessel, and it is not illegal to have a drink if you are going to be operating the boat. It is illegal to be intoxicated.

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