

I was hit by a Ford Explorer in June 2002. The collision took place at a "T intersection" in Meridian Township. I was traveling east on Haslett Road at the left-hand part of the top of the T and entered the intersection with Okemos Road. The SUV turned from the right-hand part of the T onto Okemos, directly into my path. At this point I blanked out. Based on the photos the Meridian Township Police took, my recumbent bicycle went under the SUV after the front wheels.

My body was severely bruised; I did not have internal injuries or broken bones. I was off work for a few days. My osteopath prescribed weekly acupuncture and massage therapy. This regime lasted for the next eleven months.

I support the Vulnerable User and Driver Safety bills. Cyclists are uniquely at risk since they travel faster than pedestrians but not fast enough to outrun some situations that motorcyclists or motorists can. The only penalty that motorist who hit me received was an increase in his insurance rates due to the points on his license. This is not sufficient. The Drive Safety bill will increase awareness of beginning drivers.

Thank you.

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