

# DISSECTING A FATAL SECOND

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IN THE FIRST FATAL SECOND AFTER A CAR GOING 55 MILES AN HOUR HITS A SOLID OBJECT? IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW – KEEP READING!**

1<sup>st</sup> tenth of a second – The front bumper and the grille collapse.

2<sup>nd</sup> tenth of a second – Hood starts to crumble, rising and hitting the windshield as the spinning rear tires lift from the ground. Simultaneously, fenders begin to wrap themselves around the solid object. Although the car's frame has been halted, the rest of the car is still going 55 miles an hour. Instinct causes the driver to stiffen his legs against the crash and they snap at the knee joint.

3<sup>rd</sup> tenth of a second – The steering wheel begins to disintegrate and the steering column aims for the driver's chest.

4<sup>th</sup> tenth of a second – Two feet of the car's front end wrecked while the rear end is still moving at 35 miles per hour. The driver's body is still traveling at 55 miles per hour.

5<sup>th</sup> tenth of a second – The driver is impaled on the steering column and blood rushes into his lungs.

6<sup>th</sup> tenth of a second – The impact has built to the point where the driver's feet are ripped out of the tightly laced shoes. The brake pedal breaks off. The car frame buckles in the middle. The driver's head smashes into the windshield, as the rear wheels, still spinning, fall back to the earth.

7<sup>th</sup> tenth of a second – The hinges rip loose, doors fly open and the seats break free, striking the driver from behind. The seats striking the driver do not bother him, because he is already dead.

**NOW WILL YOU BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT?????**

Credit to the Georgia Paramedics Against Drunken Driving for these facts.