

Safety Matters **Restaurant**

Provided by: Kinney Pike Insurance

Staying Safe While Making Deliveries

Given the nature of the job, delivery drivers are often exposed to a wide variety of potential risks and hazards that co-workers who remain at the restaurant might not have to deal with. Getting behind the wheel, dropping off orders and interacting with strangers all have the potential to become hazardous.

As a delivery driver, there are a number of precautions that you can take in order to keep yourself as safe as possible.

Safety on the Road

The key steps to safety begin before you even start your delivery, and extend throughout the process. To ensure your safety as a delivery driver:

- Be certain to inspect the vehicle you will be using before you get behind the wheel. If there are issues with the vehicle, let your manager know.
- Do not be tempted to rush and jeopardize your own safety. Always comply with all traffic laws and wear your seat belt.
- Avoid using your cellphone while driving. Set your GPS before you start your vehicle. If you must contact a customer or the restaurant, pull over and park before doing so.

Safety Outside Your Vehicle

While being on the road can be dangerous, it's also possible to sustain an injury or find yourself

in an unsafe situation while outside of your vehicle. Once you have parked at your destination and are bringing a customer their order, consider these tips:

- Pay attention to walkways, stairs and potential slip, trip and fall hazards.
- Do not run to drop off a delivery, as it saves little time and increases the risk of an accident.
- When working at night, carry a flashlight.
- Wear nonslip shoes when delivering in inclement weather.

Suspicious Situations

Unfortunately, delivery drivers can sometimes be the targets of violent incidents or robberies. The nature of your work means that you will often be alone, so it is of the utmost importance that you take every precaution to ensure your own safety, including the following:

- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area, such as underneath a streetlight.
- Always turn off and lock your vehicle when parked or not in use, and take the keys with you.

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- Be aware of your surroundings and any suspicious people or vehicles.
- Never approach a property that appears to be vacant. If in doubt, call the customer and ask them to meet you outside or to turn on their exterior lights.
- Do not deliver to back or side doors.
- Limit the amount of cash that you carry, and avoid displaying money during a delivery.
- If you ever feel like you are in danger, call 911.

In Conclusion

Delivery is an important element of the restaurant industry and, as a driver, you are vital to our business. While customer satisfaction is a high priority, the safety of our employees is even higher.

If you have any questions or concerns about staying safe while making deliveries, talk to your manager.