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## About Us



The Cooper Firm's expertise in wrongful death, product defects, personal injury and tractor-trailer collisions have gained the firm a reputation for obtaining justice for its clients.

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It's that time of year! Summer is soon over and children will be going back to school. Cobb County Schools are back in session August 15th so we here at The Cooper Firm wanted to send you a few tips on school bus safety and what to do if your children are being bullied. Good luck and have a safe school year!

## School Bus Safety

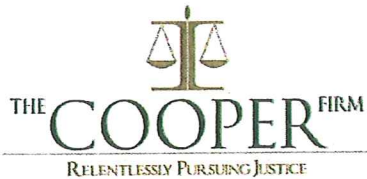


- Have your children carry everything in their backpack so they will not drop anything along the way.
- Leave in plenty of time to get to the school bus, running to the bus stop can be dangerous.
- Assist your children while crossing the street. Always cross the street in front of the bus where the driver can see you, never behind.
- Do not let your children run or play games at the bus stop. It is dangerous near traffic.
- Your children should stand 10 ft from the road while waiting for the bus.
- Teach your children to look both ways before exiting the bus.


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- Drivers can be in a hurry and rush around the bus.
- Your children should stay seated during the bus ride and keep an "inside" voice. Distractions to the bus driver can be harmful.
- There is a 10 foot blind spot on each side of the bus. The driver will not be able to see children if they are in this spot, so they should avoid this area.

## Tips For Parents: Bullying



Recently, bullying has become a very serious problem. Some Cobb County Schools are implementing anti-bullying programs to protect their students. These programs are made up of students of the schools so the victim would feel more comfortable talking with someone their own age rather than an adult. They offer counseling and advice for children dealing with bullying. As a parent it is important to know if your children are being bullied.

Here are a few tips that can help you recognize and resolve a bullying problem.

- Talk with your children. Ask for specifics and write them down. If they do not volunteer information easily, ask indirect and open-ended questions like "Tell me about your day!"
- If they give you indications that they are being bullied, believe them and log the information. Remember to write down where and when it's happening, who's involved, and the type of bullying that is taking place.
- Enroll them into extracurricular activities that build assertiveness, friendship, social or self-defense skills such as martial arts, an athletic team, club, or a creative experience that builds their confidence.
- Discuss with your children that their safety is your top priority. Let them know that if they are threatened they need to tell an adult. If the adult does not react, your children should keep a log and then tell the same adult or another adult until someone takes appropriate action.
- Contact the school immediately. Share your written log of the bullying incidences with the teacher and/or administration and ask for a plan to stop the abuse.
- Get involved with the parent-teachers association, school climate committee and/or volunteer in your children's classrooms. This will allow you to monitor the situation more closely.
- When attempting to stop the bullying, do not do the

following:

- confront the bully or their parents
- ask your children to stand up to the bully by using physical force
- blame your children for being bullied
- or keep the bullying a secret.

