

Case: Child Safety

The divorced parents of a minor son battled over issues related to their son's upbringing. We were retained by the ex-wife's counsel to document her ex-husband's allegedly reckless driving behavior. A studied review of his California driving history revealed that he was currently on probation for having accumulated six points within a short time span. An historical review of his driving history showed he had a notorious pre-California reputation for being a known speedster.

Incriminating videotape was exposed over back-to-back days of limited surveillance. The videotape depicted the ex-husband repeatedly speeding at estimated speeds of 90 MPH plus; executing frequent lane changes without signaling; using the slow lane for passing on the freeway; tailgating; driving on the shoulder to bypass traffic; cutting off and provoking motorists to honk their horns; weaving on the freeway from the fast lane to the slow lane and back to the fast lane at dangerously high speeds; crossing over designated lane lines; cornering turns while descending the hill from his residence; and executing an illegal right turn.

We calculated the ex-husband committed 15 – 18 vehicle code violations during our sporadic and abbreviated observations. The overwhelming majority of these violations occurred with his minor son in the vehicle and at dangerously excessive speed.

Furthermore, the ex-husband typically drove their son to school in a Mercedes sedan. On one occasion he departed in his second vehicle, a Mercedes coupe. His already dangerous driving habits were accentuated in the coupe, which he drove at deadly speeds despite previous and repeated citations for reckless driving.