



What To Do If You Are In A Car (Or Other Motor Vehicle) Accident

How to use this form

Even if your accident was completely someone else's fault, you can severely impair your ability to make a full recovery for your injuries by making some simple and common mistakes at the scene of the collision. This form is designed to walk you step-by-step, through what you need to do after being involved in a motor vehicle accident. We intentionally kept it simple so even if you are in shock, you should be able to follow these instructions and preserve your claim. If you have any questions about anything in this form, please call us to clarify BEFORE you are in an accident. We'd be happy to hear from you.

Stay safe at the accident scene

Leave the car where the accident occurred unless it is unsafe to do so. This will allow the police to properly and accurately document the facts of the accident. If you cannot leave your car at the collision scene, pull safely to the side of the road and remain in your vehicle. Additional injuries can occur if proper precautions are not taken after the accident.

Call the police

Contact emergency personnel right away after an accident. The police will take statements from parties to the accident and will preserve evidence and witnesses. If the police refuse to come to the scene because the accident was in a private parking lot or there were no apparent injuries, get the insurance information, address and phone number from the other driver, as well as contact information for any witnesses. If possible, take a picture of the other driver's license and insurance card. Use this page to record all the information you obtain.

Take as many pictures as you can

These days nearly everyone has a phone with a camera. You should photograph the damage to vehicles, the overall scene and any visible injuries. Take as many pictures as you can from many different angles. In car accidents, a picture really is worth a thousand words.

Promptly seek medical attention

Go to the emergency room, if necessary, or see your primary care physician as soon as possible after being involved in a motor vehicle accident, regardless of whether you believe your injuries to be serious or minor. Often serious injuries can be masked by the adrenaline from being in an accident and a comprehensive examination will let you know how you are really doing.

Report the incident to your insurance company

It is not necessary to call your insurance company from the scene of the accident, but many insurance companies do require that you report an accident promptly. If you call the insurance company before consulting with an attorney, you should only give the basic information about how the accident happened. If they want more detail or if they want to record your call, you should meet with an attorney before going any further.

Contact an attorney

When you contact an experienced attorney, they will advocate for you in discussions with insurance companies. Don't give a statement to any insurance company without an experienced attorney at your side. Insurance companies will prevent you from making a full recovery if you do or say the wrong thing.

Contact information of the at fault party:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Vehicle information of the at fault party:

Make: _____
Model: _____
Year: _____
License plate #: _____

Insurance information of the at fault party:

Company name: _____
Policy Number: _____

Information from responding officer:

Name: _____
Agency: _____

Contact information from witnesses:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____