

## CAR ACCIDENT

So you've been in an accident... Now what? Take a deep breath and follow this road map to get on the road to recovery.



Carefully move your vehicle off the road if possible to prevent further accidents. Call 911. The emergency center will direct your call to the police or ambulance.



Exchange information with everyone involved: name, address, phone number, driver's license number, VIN, license plate number, insurance policy number, and name of insurance company. Take photos of the other car's license plate and any documentation as well as writing it down.

## TIP

Call the police, even for a minor accident. A police report will provide proof if someone changes their story later.

Get names and contact information from any witnesses. Write down what you remember others saying when you are in a safe place.

## Take photos of your vehicle damage. Don't expect your insurance adjuster to give these to you later. Take photos of your injuries and the surrounding area too.



Get medical treatment, even if you think you're going to be okay. Describe any aches or pains you may have to E.R. doctors and nurses. Some injuries might not be immediately apparent, and it can be hard to prove they are related to the accident if you don't report them immediately.

Have a friend or family member report the incident to your insurance company. Don't give a statement or sign anything until you speak to an attorney.

Call a personal injury lawyer as soon as possible. You only get one chance to settle your case, and a lawyer knows best how to help you.



Don't leave the scene until a police officer says it's okay.

It is natural to feel guilty when you are in a crash, but don't claim the blame until you talk to a lawyer.

You don't need to tell anyone, besides a police officer, how you think the accident happened. Stick to the facts and don't speculate or guess on any details.



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## CONTACT US FOR A FREE CONSULTATION (573) 443-4500

Source: "Missouri - If You Have An Accident." DMV.org. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Jan. 2015. < http://www.dmv.org/mo-missouri/accident-guide/>.