PRAXION LAW

Los Angeles Personal Injury Attorney

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Car Accident Recovery Guide

Step-by-step guide on what to do immediately after a car accident, from documenting the scene to negotiating with insurance.

WHAT TO DO IMMEDIATELY AFTER A CAR ACCIDENT

1. ENSURE SAFETY FIRST
• Check yourself and passengers for injuries
• Call 911 if anyone is injured or if there's significant property damage
• Move vehicles to a safe location if possible (only if safe to do so)
• Turn on hazard lights and set up flares or warning triangles if available

2. CALL THE POLICE
• Always file a police report, even for minor accidents
• The police report is critical evidence for your claim
• Get the report number and officer's name
• Never admit fault to anyone at the scene

3. DOCUMENT THE SCENE
• Take photos of all vehicle damage from multiple angles
• Photograph the accident scene, including road conditions, traffic signs, and skid marks
• Take pictures of visible injuries
• Record the exact location, date, and time
• Note weather and lighting conditions

4. EXCHANGE INFORMATION
Get from all drivers involved:
• Full name and contact information
• Driver's license number
• License plate number
• Insurance company name and policy number
• Vehicle make, model, and year

5. GATHER WITNESS INFORMATION
• Get names and contact information of all witnesses
• Ask if they saw what happened
• Request written statements if possible
• Witnesses can be crucial for your case

6. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION
• Get examined by a doctor within 24 hours, even if you feel fine
• Some injuries (whiplash, internal injuries) may not show symptoms immediately
• Follow all medical advice and attend all appointments
• Keep all medical records and bills
• Document your pain levels and limitations daily

7. NOTIFY YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY
• Report the accident promptly (check your policy for time limits)
• Provide only basic facts - don't speculate or admit fault
• Don't give a recorded statement without consulting an attorney
• Don't accept any settlement offers before talking to a lawyer

NEED LEGAL HELP?

If you've been injured in an accident, don't face the insurance companies alone. Our experienced personal injury attorney is here to fight for the compensation you deserve.

Call us today for a FREE consultation: 310-896-8900

No fees unless we win your case.

PRAXION LAW

Your Rights. Our Fight.