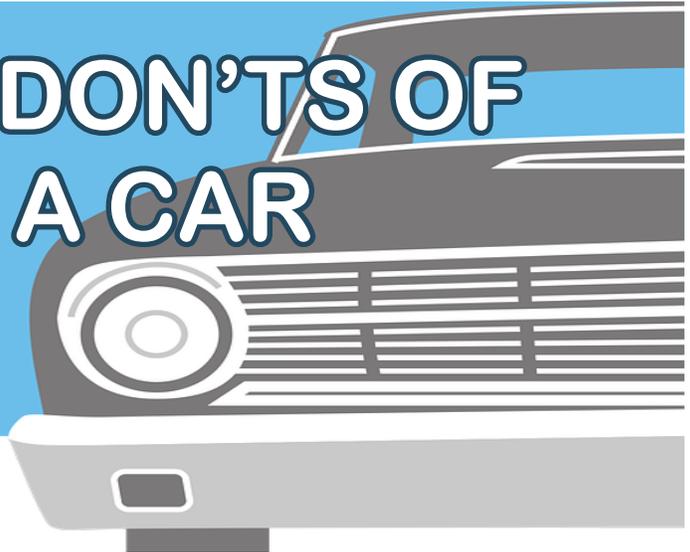


THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF DEALING WITH A CAR ACCIDENT



By The Carlson Law Firm

It's safe to say that being in an auto accident isn't at the top of your wish list. The anxiety and stress associated with a car wreck that results in a personal injury may leave you and your loved ones with questions and concerns. By following these simple do's and don'ts, you can ensure your safety, protect your rights and make sure you are properly compensated for your injuries.

Ensure safety. If possible, move yourself and others involved to a safe place. Seek medical attention for those seriously injured.

Talk to witnesses. Ask everyone what they saw and if they have ever witnessed a similar accident in the same place. Ask for their contact information so that they can be contacted by your attorney later on.

Call the police. Ask that a police report is filed and request a copy of the report. Obtain name and badge numbers of responding officers.

Take photos. Document the entire crash scene, including your and the other driver's vehicle and injuries. If necessary, take pictures of street signs, skid marks and anything else that could effect your claim.

Gather details. Note the name, contact and insurance information of all parties involved in the accident. Take a moment to jot down the details of the scene while still fresh in your mind.

Contact an attorney. An experienced personal injury attorney can be extremely helpful in negotiating the often chaotic and confusing world of personal injury claims and settlements.

The Don'ts

DON'T admit fault. Be courteous, but avoid apologizing to the other driver, no matter who is at fault. Stick to the facts when speaking to others. Do not post about the crash on social media.

DON'T accept a check from your insurance company without fully understanding the extent of your losses, injuries and damages. This may not fully or fairly compensate you for your damages.

DON'T sign any waivers provided to you by your insurance company without seeking the advice of a personal injury attorney first.

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