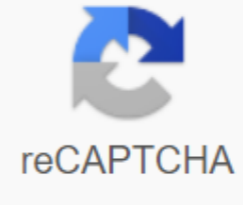




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Car accidents columbus ohio today

You know what to do right after a car accident? That's something no one likes to think about, but the average driver in the U.S. is going to be in three to four car accidents. Team Clark has spoken to some experts to come up with the best action plan the next time you're in a car accident. Follow these steps next time you are in a speed accident

Fast connections: 1. Find a safe place This can go without saying, but moments after a car crash can be crazy and confusing. Your number one priority should be to try to limit any additional damage to a person or property. The first thing you want to do if you're in a car accident is if you're able to get out of your car, you want to make sure you're in a place where you can't be affected by oncoming traffic, says Atlanta's attorney and former judge judge for Fulton (Georgia) Quinton Washington. If you don't think it's safe to leave the car, wait for the authorities to arrive. If the accident was minor and you can safely move the vehicle out of the travel lanes, you must do the same. The next thing you're going to want to do is call the local emergency services where your accident happened. Almost anywhere in the U.S., you can do it by calling 9-1-1. The sending man will then send police, an ambulance and/or fire assistance as intended. At this point, the authorities will begin investigating the accident. The law will generally inform the officer investigating the crash what they will do, Washington says. For example, if you hit someone from behind, it's a clear responsibility. But if it's questionable who was responsible for the accident, I'd like to give the cop my side of the story. That way, they can decide whether to give the ticket and to whom. Police may need to conduct a crime scene investigation to determine whether the customer who punched you is in any way obstructed - or do anything that might bother them. These determinations could affect the insurance you may be entitled to collect if you decide that this is the path you want to go. 3. If you are injured, get medical attention immediately While all this is happening - and as soon as possible - you need to determine if you are injured or not. You need to determine that right then and there at the crime scene, Washington says. That's one of the things people who are considering compensation for personal injury accidents will look at. Adjustments and insurance companies have checklists. These checklists, he says, can include questions such as: Was the party damaged? Did they leave the crash scene in an ambulance? What happened when they went to the er? After the emergency room, were there visits to another doctor for the course of treatment? If a few weeks is between an accident and when you decide to hurt you, insurers will be much more skeptical, he says. Remember that if cars are hitting each other, and the person who weighs a lot less than these cars are doing is absorbing some of that impact, you may not know what the effects may be right away. We could have so much adrenaline all over your body, you could think it's okay if it's not. 4. Get Pictures of the Scene, If Possible As we mentioned earlier, authorities will write up the accident report and make sure they have contact and insurance information from the drivers, but there's something else you should do at the scene to protect yourself. Always make sure you get pictures of the crash scene, says Washington. You want to document property damage on both your vehicle and the other party's vehicle. So when you're called by an insurance company, you can describe exactly what happened as you remember - and that the other driver is honest. Another thing you will want to do after a car crash is to notify your insurance agent as soon as possible. Your insurance company will normally work with another party's insurance company to determine who will pay for the damage and any medical bills. The insurer will make a different decision (other than the authorities) after talking to policyholders about whether or not to pay for the claim, says Washington. Money expert Clark Howard says that if the accident was clearly your fault, you'll admit it to the investigating officer and your insurance company. You should only admit guilt if you're comfortable saying you're guilty, says Clark. But if you're guilty, you can really help another person by calling your insurance company and telling them you've accepted responsibility. Another person will be able to get a rental car and get their car processed through the body shop system much faster. 6. Follow the insurance and keep the final file, handling insurance claims after an accident can be a lengthy process with a lot of information involved. For this reason, it's really important that we keep detailed records, says Clark. Make sure you keep the file with all the information associated with the wreck. This includes: Photos Police Report Claims Numbers Names and Correction numbers claims Takeovers for all costs associated with an accident (car hire or rides, for example) The more organized you can keep everything, the better willing you will be to work on some resolution for your request. Finally, Think Hopefully you won't need any of these tips soon, but it's always best to get ready. File these steps In the comfort of knowing that if you face an unexpected car accident, you'll be well prepared for a stop. More Car Insurance Stories on Clark.com: The driver in the bright yellow Hummer left his vehicle with a 100-car wreck on his shoulder on Cleveland Avenue and Morse Road. Now you have to live with the consequences: pain, medical bills, impossibility of working, plus haunted nightmares and flashes. To add insult to injury, you need a brave court system in Ohio, because Mr. Hummer won't return your calls. To help with the potentially long road ahead, FindLaw has created a guide to prepare you for what to do after a car crash in Columbus. First thing First there are some easy steps that you should always worry about by accident. Don't drive away first. The Ohio Law requires you to stop the vehicle immediately to provide your name, address and registration number of the vehicle to all those involved in the crash. You must also specify the name of the owner if this is not your vehicle. If no one was injured, you can leave the scene after sharing information. However, if the damage occurred or if the damage to the property was at least \$400, and if the driver or owner of one of the vehicles in the crash does not have car insurance, you must file an accident report with the Ohio Motor Vehicle Office within six months of the accident. If there has been a serious injury, to the point where the injured person is unable to understand or record the information you have given them, you must remain with the victim until the police arrive. In the end, we should gather all the evidence that could be useful. You may want to record the contact details of all witnesses not involved in the accident and hear their side of the story. You could also jot notes on weather and road conditions, or the exact circumstances of the accident. It is also good to take pictures of the crash site and any damage to your vehicle. However, it is often suggested that you avoid voluntary volunteering until you have talked to a lawyer. In particular, avoid apologising for the accident or to state that the accident was your fault. That's a lot of information to remember after a traumatic accident, so why not print a useful checklist to stay close for a rainy day? Auto insurance Ohio Revised Code Section 4509.101 prohibits anyone from driving in Ohio without auto insurance. The law requires financial liability of a minimum amount of \$25,000 for the personal injury or death of one individual in any accident, \$50,000 for the personal injury or death of two or more individuals in any accident, and \$25,000 for damage to the property of others in any accident. Ohio follows a traditional system of errors when it comes to traffic accidents, meaning that the person who was legally responsible for causing the accident is responsible for all damage, including damage (although compensation is usually collected from the customer's insurance company). Start a lawsuit To file a lawsuit, you must prepare an appeal, which is a brief explanation of the basis of your lawsuit, the names of the defendants and the claim for damages. Or you can talk to a personal injury lawyer. Personal injury lawyers work almost universally on the basis of case fees, which means you pay them a percentage of your recovery after you win. If your lawsuit is worth \$15,000 or less, you must file a lawsuit in Franklin County Court. If the amount in the controversy exceeds \$15,000, they should instead file a joint lawsuit in Franklin County Court. These courts are next to each other at 375 South High Street and 345 South High Street respectively. Alternatively, if you claim it is worth less than \$3,000 consider using small court claims for relaxed procedural requirements. Check out this handy guide to small court claims published by the Ohio Supreme Court. Time limits Like all states, Ohio sets time limits for filing various lawsuits. Personal injuries or claims of a car crash due to a statute of limitations in Ohio have been made against the driver who is responsible for the wreck age two years from the date of the crash. If you do not file within two years of the accident, you will be dragged away forever regardless of the strength of your claim. The most common type of lawsuit after an accident is a claim of negligence. You must prove that the other driver did not provide reasonable care while operating the vehicle. It is easier to prove if the other driver of the vehicle is unspanned, violated traffic laws or drugged. In addition, in fatal accidents, surviving family members have the right to be suing for merciless death. This type of lawsuit seeks compensation for survivors, such as the deceased's lost wages, lost costs and funeral costs. Alternatively, you can file a lawsuit against the manufacturer if a vehicle defect contributed to the accident. To succeed in this claim, you must prove: the damaged car or part was unsoundly dangerous; You were operating the vehicle as intended; and the performance of the vehicle has not changed since the original purchase. Comparative negligence Ohio passed an amended rule on comparative negligence to apportion damages in 1980. Under the Ohio Due Diligence Act, a jury assigns blame to each party, and compensation is reduced in proportion to each party's relative culpability. For example, if you got \$1,000 for an accident that was found to be 10 percent of your guilt, you'll be able to recover 90 percent or \$900. However, beware, the same statute stipules that if a client is more than 50 percent guilty, they should not any damage. Get Legal Aid with your car crash in Columbus Now that you know what to do after a car crash in Columbus, it's a good idea to ask a local attorney for a traffic accident to learn more about Ohio state's laws governing traffic accidents, and of course, get help-specific questions about what to do after a car crash in Columbus. Call a qualified lawyer. Lawyer.