





Auto Accident Victim's Toolkit

An auto accident is overwhelming and the days following it are trying and confusing while dealing with great pain and uncertainty. There's a lot to remember and track. You'll have a lot of paperwork and a jumble of information coming your way – not to mention phone calls from insurance company adjusters.

It's important to keep track of as much as you can. This toolkit guides you through the process of dealing with the aftermath of a traumatic auto accident and provides space where you will be able to take notes and keep track of new developments in your case.

This is not a legal document. This "toolkit" is only for the information and use of the general public. The review and use of this tool kit is not intended to and does not create an "attorney-client" relationship between the user and McDivitt Law Firm.

Feel free to write whatever seems relevant and whatever will help you remember and reflect on your experience. Writing the information down and keeping a good diary of events related to the accident will help you discuss your case more confidently with your attorney.

DO NOT discuss your case with the insurance company for the responsible party. Although you may explain property damage claims with the insurance company, you should tell them you want to wait until you have spoken with an attorney to describe the crash or discuss your injuries. Whatever you tell them might hurt your case in ways you wouldn't suspect.

It's important to contact an attorney immediately after an accident. If you're not sure if you have a claim or if you don't know what to expect in the process, contact McDivitt Law Firm toll free at 877-846-4878 for a free consultation. There's no cost for the initial consultation and you will come away from the conversation with a clearer understanding of your rights so you can make an educated decision about what to do next.

FROM THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT

Date and time of accident:	Location of accident: ————————————————————————————————————		
How Many cars were involved:	Names and phone numbers of passengers in your vehicle and other vehicles involved:		
Name(s) and contact information for the other driver or driver's involved:	Other driver's insurance information:		



Your insurance information:				
Police officer, sheriff 's deputy or state patrol officer who responded to the scene:				
Paramedic you spoke with and ambulance number:				
What injuries did you discuss with paramedics, their comments:				
Who else involved in the accident was treated by paramedics?				
What hospital or medical facility did you go to and who treated you there:				
What injuries did you discuss, what treatments did you receive:				
Describe the accident as you remember it occurring:				



Do you remember anything unusual about the other driver's behavior after the accident? Did you notice a smell of alcohol or observe anger or sleepiness in the driver?					
Have you seen your vehicle since the accident? How much damage did it sustain? Did you take pictures of the damage to both vehicles? What was the monetary loss according to your insurer? How did the car look? What damage did you observe to your vehicle and any other vehicle(s) involved.					
Whom did you talk to at your insurance company and what did you discuss with him/her?					
Did you talk to anyone from the other party's insurance company? What did you tell him or her? (Do not discuss injuries or how the accident happened with the insurance company before consulting an attorney!)					
How are your injuries impacting your work or your ability to work?					
Are you worried your injuries will impact your ability to work long-term and how?					
How are your injuries impacting the rest of your life? Are there any activities you enjoy in which you haven't been able to participate?					
Are you worried your injuries will prevent you from participating in activities you enjoy in the future? How?					



Get supplemental information

- Request medical records from your physician regarding the injuries you sustained in the accident.
- Get a copy of the police report from your accident, if applicable. Contact the agency that handled your call and request it. Some agencies will charge a small fee for copies or faxing the documents. You can also receive them digitally.

Contact information for many of the most common Colorado agencies is lised below.

Arapaho County Sheriff 's Office: 303-795-4711

Colorado Springs Police Department: 719-444-7000

Denver Police Department: 720-913-2000

Douglas County Sheriff 's Office: 303-660-7500

El Paso County Sheriff 's Office: 719-390-5555

Pueblo County Sheriff 's Office: 719-583-6250

Pueblo Police Department: 719-553-2502

Teller County Sheriff 's Office: 719-687-9652

After the accident

Once you have captured that basic information, keep track of what you do next. It's a good idea to buy a small notebook and designate it as your auto accident journal. You can keep daily or weekly notes in the journal about your aches and pains, doctor visits, appointments, phone calls and bills.

By keeping a daily journal you will be able at a later date to be more specific as to how the accident impacted your body and the interruption to your life.

Here is a list of a few things to keep track of in your journal:

- How you feel each day following the accident. Note things like a stiff neck, sore shoulder or swollen knee as well as the healing of more obvious injuries like broken arms and black eyes.
- Conversations with insurance company representatives. Be sure to get the representatives' names. Write down what they say to you and what you tell them as well as the date and time of day of the conversation.
- Conversations with attorneys. Take your notebook to attorney meetings and take notes on your case and the advice your attorney gives you.
- Doctor visits. Write down the dates and times of visits as well as any information the doctor shares.
- Bills. Keep all of your bills and receipts in one place, perhaps in the journal. This includes medical bills and bills for repairs to your car.

Need help? Contact the McDivitt Law Firm toll free at 877-846-4878 for a free consultation. There's no cost for the initial consultation and you will come away from the conversation with a clearer understanding of your rights so you can make an educated decision about what to do next.

YOU CAN START HERE BEFORE YOU GET A JOURNAL

Day of the accident:		
Day 2:		
Day 3		
Day 4	 	
Day 5		

It's important to contact an attorney before too much time passes after an accident. If you're not sure if you have a claim or if you don't know what to expect of the process, contact the McDivitt Law Firm for a free consultation. There's no cost and you will come away from the conversation with a clearer understanding of your rights.