



MAG MILE LAW

COUNSELORS & TRIAL ATTORNEYS

WHAT TO DO AFTER A CAR ACCIDENT

April 2, 2020

1. *Be thorough at the accident scene.* This may be the only time to get information from the other driver(s) and to document the scene. Take photos of the other driver's driver's license and insurance card. Get his cell phone number. Speak with witnesses who may have stopped at the scene and obtain their information. Take photos and video of the accident scene, including all cars involved, the roadway, lighting, and debris. At this time, you don't know what might be relevant for a future claim, so take as many photos and videos as you can.
2. *Cooperate with the reporting police officer.* Provide him or her with all the facts about what happened. But, don't admit blame or place blame on the other party. Just provide the facts, as best as you can remember them. Make sure to get the report number from the officer so you can obtain a copy of the police report when it is completed.
3. *Get medical attention.* Even if you don't go to the hospital in an ambulance, seek medical attention right away. Go to the ER or see your personal physician. You may have internal injuries you don't even know about. Also, defense attorneys question the seriousness of an injury when claimants do not seek medical attention right away.
4. *Call your insurance company as promptly as possible.* Report what happened while, again, giving them the facts about the accident. Don't offer your opinions. Don't admit blame or place blame on the other party.
5. *Don't speak to other insurance companies.* Insurance companies for other drivers involved will want to speak with you about the accident. You are not required to do so! If you have a lawyer, tell them that you have a lawyer and tell them to contact your lawyer. If you don't have a lawyer, you can politely decline speaking to the other insurance company.
6. *Document your injuries.* Take photos of your injuries. Make a journal about how you feel every day. Be specific about how the accident has injured you and how those injuries have affected your daily activities.
7. *Contact an attorney.* If you haven't already done so, call an attorney. Ask for a free consultation, as many attorneys - including Mag Mile Law - offer these free of charge. Ask for a personal meeting. At the meeting, bring everything you have relating to the accident with you, including photos, videos, reports, etc., and provide them with as much information as you can. This will help the attorney evaluate your case.
8. *After hiring an attorney, follow up with them.* Check on your case. Provide him or her with any updates on your medical status. Don't hesitate to call or email your attorney. It's your case and your life, and you should never feel bad about contacting your attorney.