

Watch Out For Motorcycles!

ACCIDENT CHECKLIST FOR YOUR SADDLEBAG:

1. Safety first – make sure the accident victim is in a safe place, doesn't move and others are directing traffic as necessary.
2. Call 911 – reporting the accident to the authorities, providing the location, nature of accident, injuries involved and the request for police and paramedics.
3. Secure Witnesses – canvas the accident scene and nearby businesses to obtain and write down the names of all witnesses, and their related contact information.
4. Obtain Photographs – take pictures of the scene, vehicles and injuries.
5. Cooperate with the police – providing all information, including complaints of injury.
6. Do not speak with the other driver – especially if the other driver is not admitting fault.
7. Obtain first aid offered at the scene, offered by bystanders, paramedics or others.
8. Accept ambulance or emergency transport to the nearest qualified trauma center or hospital.
9. Report all injuries, head to toe, to the triage nurse and emergency room physician, including the smallest of injuries.
10. Follow recommendations of all medical professionals who have examined and treated your injuries.
11. Contact attorney Brad Souders, by calling cell number (813) 220-7767 to schedule a free immediate initial consultation at your home or hospital room, including after hours or weekends.
12. Report the accident to all involved insurance companies – through your attorney.
13. Do Not Give Statements – to anyone except the investigating police officer mentioned above, without first consulting your attorney. Otherwise, no statements to insurance companies or private investigators, without your attorney being present.
14. Obtain proper medical treatment for all injuries in the days, weeks and months after the accident. Your attorney may also be able to assist you with finding the best doctors to treat your specific injuries, under your circumstances.
15. Keep record of all lost wages – using a calendar to record all time lost from work, providing the best documentation of your lost wages possible, also recording lost sick time, lost promotions and all other related losses.
16. Keep a list of all doctors seen, including their address and telephone numbers. This includes all places you have been referred to for diagnostic testing, therapy and otherwise. This list will be helpful to your attorney to order copy of all charts and related billing, for demand or litigation purposes in your case.
17. Keep a pain and suffering journal – most keep an spiral notebook at bedside to keep a diary of the date, their injuries, describing their injuries.
18. Secure photographs or video of ongoing injuries and their affects on daily living – such photographs or video goes a long way to document continuing damages.
19. Keep an Accident File – to keep record of all papers received relating to the accident, injuries and all

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damages, to preserve all such information for later use by yourself and your attorney. Keep all accident or crash related information.

20. Obtain your attorney's personal cell number – calling at reasonable intervals to ask about the progress of your case, to answer any questions you may be having and to making sure both you and your attorney have an understanding about the specific timeline your case is on, expectations of the client and of the attorney, to having the most successful claim, to maximize your recovery in these matters.

21. Best intentions or practice with the above will not help you if the other driver did not have adequate insurance coverage to compensate your damages. Thus, before an accident – secure Uninsured Motorists (“UM”) Coverage, having “stacked” uninsured motorist coverage in your automobile insurance policies; and, also having the same in your motorcycle insurance policies, having the highest UM coverage you can afford.

DISCLAIMER: This checklist of things to do after a motorcycle crash is merely intended as a basic guide of suggestions after any accident. The suggestions by themselves are not intended and do not create any attorney-client relationship. We strongly recommend anyone who has been injured in an accident to *immediately* call Brad to schedule a free initial consultation to obtain specific advice to your specific facts and circumstances, to obtain legal representation, to maximize your recovery.

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