

BRADLEY LAW

PERSONAL INJURY LAWYERS

Missouri Car Accident Checklist

IMMEDIATE SAFETY (First Priority)

- ☐ Check for injuries - call 911 if anyone needs medical attention
- ☐ Move to safety - get out of traffic if vehicles are drivable
- ☐ Turn on hazard lights
- ☐ Set up flares, cones, or reflective triangles if available
- ☐ Do NOT move seriously injured people

DOCUMENT THE SCENE

- ☐ Take photos of all vehicle damage from multiple angles
- ☐ Photograph the accident location and road conditions
- ☐ Capture traffic signs, signals, and street names
- ☐ Take pictures of license plates and VINs
- ☐ Document any visible injuries
- ☐ Photo timestamp with newspaper or phone date if possible
- ☐ Sketch the accident scene if safe to do so

EXCHANGE INFORMATION

For Each Driver Involved:

- ☐ Full name and contact information
- ☐ Driver's license number
- ☐ Insurance company and policy number
- ☐ Vehicle make, model, year, and color
- ☐ License plate number
- ☐ VIN number (if accessible)

For Witnesses:

- ☐ Name and phone number
- ☐ Brief statement about what they saw
- ☐ Email address if willing to provide

POLICE REPORT

- ☐ Call police (required if injury, death, or damage over \$500)
- ☐ Get officer's name and badge number
- ☐ Request accident report number
- ☐ Ask how to obtain copy of report
- ☐ Provide facts only - avoid admitting fault

PROTECT YOUR CLAIM

- ☐ Seek medical attention promptly (even if feeling okay)
 - ☐ Keep all medical records and receipts
 - ☐ Report accident to your insurance company within 24-48 hours
 - ☐ Avoid giving recorded statements without legal advice
 - ☐ Don't sign anything except traffic tickets
 - ☐ File Missouri DOR report within 30 days if uninsured driver involved
 - ☐ Keep detailed records of all accident-related expenses
 - ☐ Remember: You have 5 years to file injury claims, 3 years for wrongful death
 - ☐ Government vehicle claims must be filed within 90 days
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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

DO NOT:

- ☒ Admit fault or apologize
- ☒ Discuss details beyond basic facts
- ☒ Accept quick settlement offers
- ☒ Let anyone pressure you into signing documents

DO:

- ✓ Keep this checklist in your glove compartment
- ✓ Take photos even if damage seems minor
- ✓ Get medical attention for ANY symptoms
- ✓ Contact an attorney if injuries are serious or fault is disputed