

Drunk Driving Accident Checklist

Steps to take after a DUI accident in Colorado Springs.

Based on Colorado Springs Drunk Driving Accident Lawyers by McCormick and Murphy

1. Immediate Actions After an Accident

Prioritize safety and gather essential information at the scene.

- Ensure everyone's safety and call 911 if there are injuries.
- Move vehicles out of traffic if safe to do so.
- Exchange information with other drivers (name, contact, insurance).
- Do not admit fault or apologize at the scene.
- Note the other driver's behavior and appearance.
- Take photos of the accident scene and vehicle damage.
- Identify and speak with any witnesses.

2. Documenting the Incident

Collect evidence to support your claim.

- Obtain the police report number.
- Keep a detailed record of all conversations with police, insurance adjusters, and other parties.
- Note the date, time, and location of the accident.
- Record all expenses incurred due to the accident.
- Save all medical records and bills.
- Keep track of lost income due to inability to work.

3. Understanding Legal Processes

Differentiate between criminal charges and civil lawsuits.

- Recognize that criminal charges and civil lawsuits are separate.
- Understand the criminal case focuses on punishment (fines, jail).
- Understand the civil case focuses on compensation for damages.
- Know that you can file a civil case while criminal charges are pending.
- Know that you can settle or go to trial in civil court regardless of the criminal case outcome.
- Understand you do not need to wait for a criminal conviction to seek compensation.

4. Seeking Medical Attention

Prioritize your health and document injuries.

- Seek immediate medical attention, even for seemingly minor injuries.
- Follow all doctor's recommendations and attend all follow-up appointments.

- Inform your doctor about the accident and any pain you are experiencing.
- Keep copies of all medical reports and bills.

5. Dealing with Insurance Companies

Navigate insurance claims carefully.

- Report the accident to your insurance company promptly.
- Be cautious about statements made to the at-fault driver's insurance company.
- Do not accept a settlement offer without understanding its full implications.
- Consult with an attorney before speaking extensively with the other party's insurer.

6. Consulting with an Attorney

Secure legal representation to protect your rights.

- Seek legal advice from a qualified attorney specializing in DUI accidents.
- Gather all documentation related to the accident and your injuries before meeting with an attorney.
- Discuss your case openly and honestly with your attorney.
- Understand the attorney's fees and representation agreement.
- Allow your attorney to handle communications with insurance companies and other parties.

Resources & Further Reading

Use these pages while working through the checklist:

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■ James Murphy

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■ Sample Case Result

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■ M + M in the community

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■ Testimonials

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McCormick and Murphy | 929 W Colorado Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80905
(719)-389-0400 | mccormickmurphy.com
Understand your rights and pursue fair compensation after a DUI accident.