

# Reckless Driving Accident Checklist

Steps to take after a Denver reckless driving accident

Based on Denver Reckless Driving Accident Lawyer by McCormick and Murphy

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## 1. Immediate Actions at the Scene

*Prioritize safety and gather essential information.*

- Ensure everyone's safety and call 911 if there are injuries.
- Move vehicles out of traffic if safe to do so.
- Call the police to report the accident.
- Exchange contact and insurance information with other drivers.
- Identify and note down witness contact information.
- Take photos of the accident scene, vehicle damage, and any injuries.
- Do not admit fault for the accident.

## 2. Understanding Reckless Driving

*Learn the legal definition and its implications.*

- Understand that reckless driving involves willful or wanton disregard for others' safety.
- Recognize the difference between reckless driving and ordinary negligence.
- Note that ordinary negligence is a failure to exercise reasonable care.
- Understand that reckless driving can support a claim for punitive damages.
- Know that negligence cases are limited to compensatory damages.

## 3. Documenting Your Injuries

*Thoroughly record all medical aspects of your injuries.*

- Seek immediate medical attention for all injuries, even if they seem minor.
- Follow all doctor's recommendations and treatment plans.
- Keep detailed records of all medical appointments and treatments.
- Obtain copies of all medical records and bills.
- Note any pain, discomfort, or limitations experienced due to the injuries.

## 4. Gathering Evidence of Negligence

*Collect proof to support your claim.*

- Obtain a copy of the police report.
- Collect photos and videos of the accident scene and damage.
- Gather witness statements and contact information.
- Document the other driver's actions that indicated recklessness.

- Note any traffic citations issued to the other driver.

## 5. Calculating Your Losses

*Identify all damages you are entitled to recover.*

- List all medical expenses incurred to date.
- Estimate future medical treatment costs.
- Calculate lost wages from time missed at work.
- Estimate future lost earning capacity if applicable.
- Document property damage to your vehicle and other belongings.
- Consider non-economic damages like pain and suffering.

## 6. Dealing with Insurance Companies

*Navigate interactions with insurance adjusters carefully.*

- Notify your insurance company of the accident promptly.
- Be cautious about giving recorded statements to the other party's insurer.
- Do not accept a settlement offer without understanding its full implications.
- Keep detailed records of all communication with insurance adjusters.

## 7. Consulting a Lawyer

*Understand when and why to seek legal counsel.*

- Consider consulting an attorney if injuries are serious or fault is disputed.
- Look for a lawyer experienced in reckless driving accident cases.
- Prepare to discuss the details of the accident and your injuries with the lawyer.
- Understand the lawyer's fee structure and representation agreement.

## Resources & Further Reading

*Use these pages while working through the checklist:*

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Understand the difference between negligence and reckless driving to pursue appropriate damages.