Reckless Driving Accident Checklist

Steps to take after a reckless driving accident in Denver

Based on Denver Reckless Driving Accident Lawyer by McCormick and Murphy

1. Immediate Actions After the Accident

Prioritize safety and gather initial information.

- ■ Ensure everyone's safety and call 911 if there are injuries or significant damage.
- ■ Move vehicles out of traffic if safe to do so.
- ■ Do not admit fault or apologize.
- ■ Exchange insurance and contact information with other drivers.
- ■ Identify and note down names and contact details of any witnesses.

2. Documenting the Scene

Preserve evidence of the accident.

- ■ Take photos of the accident scene from multiple angles.
- ■ Photograph the damage to all vehicles involved.
- ■ Capture images of any injuries sustained.
- ■ Document road conditions, traffic signals, and weather.
- ■ Note the location, date, and time of the accident.

3. Understanding Reckless Driving vs. Negligence

Differentiate between the types of driver behavior.

- ■ Recognize that reckless driving involves willful or wanton disregard for safety.
- ■ Understand that ordinary negligence is a failure to exercise reasonable care.
- ■ Note if the other driver's actions indicated they knew their conduct was dangerous.
- ■ Consider if the other driver's actions were a simple mistake or misjudgment.
- ■ Understand the difference in potential damages (punitive vs. compensatory).

4. Reporting the Accident

Formalize the incident with authorities.

- ■ File a police report if one was not made at the scene.
- ■ Obtain a copy of the police report.
- ■ Report the accident to your insurance company promptly.

5. Gathering Evidence for Your Claim

Collect all necessary documentation.

- ■ Keep records of all medical treatment received.

- Save receipts for all accident-related expenses (repairs, medical bills, lost wages).
- Collect any communication with insurance adjusters.
- Obtain repair estimates and invoices for vehicle damage.
- Gather evidence of lost income due to the accident.

6. Consulting with an Attorney

Seek legal guidance for your case.

- Research attorneys specializing in Denver reckless driving accidents.
- Schedule initial consultations with potential lawyers.
- Prepare a summary of the accident and your damages for the consultation.
- Ask about the attorney's experience with similar cases.
- Understand the attorney's fee structure.
- Discuss the possibility of punitive damages if reckless driving is proven.

7. Understanding Damages

Identify the types of compensation you may be eligible for.

- Understand compensatory damages for actual losses (medical, property, lost wages).
- Learn about potential punitive damages in cases of reckless driving.
- Document all losses to support your claim for damages.

Resources & Further Reading

Use these pages while working through the checklist:

- Home

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- About

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- Kirk McCormick

https://mccormickmurphy.com/about/kirk-mccormick/

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