

Law Offices of John J. Malm

1730 Park Street, Suite 210

Naperville, Illinois 60563

What to do When You Have Been Involved in A Car Accident

What can you do if you have been involved in a car accident? Here are ten steps to follow:

1. Stop your vehicle and do not leave the scene.
2. Be safe. Move your car off the roadway to a safe location, if possible.
3. Call police so that an official accident report can be completed. If you are asked, urge police to issue a traffic ticket to the at-fault motorist. A plea of "guilty" in the traffic court may assist you by serving as an admission of fault in the civil case you will eventually pursue.
4. Take a picture, or draw a diagram, of the accident scene.
5. Identify witnesses. Write down the name, address, and phone number of anyone who witnessed the accident, before they leave the accident scene.
6. Be careful what you say, and to whom you say it. Speak only to the police. Certain statements regrettably made at an accident scene may be admitted into evidence by a clever defense attorney.
7. Get medical attention as soon as possible. If your injuries are serious, go immediately to the emergency room for a proper evaluation.
8. Call your insurance company. Report the accident to your insurance company immediately.
9. Take photographs and video of the property damage to your vehicle and of any visible injuries you may have suffered.
10. Do not speak to investigators or claim adjusters from the at-fault driver's insurance company.

Finally, once you are able to do so, call and speak to a knowledgeable attorney about your case.

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[CONTACT ATTORNEY JOHN J. MALM](#)

The Law Offices of John J. Malm, P.C. is an experienced personal injury law firm representing individuals and families who have suffered an injury or loss due to an accident. You may be entitled to a substantial settlement if you have been injured. Call 630-527-4177, or 312-422-6855, and speak with Attorney John J. Malm.