



Sackrin & Tolchinsky, P. A.
Attorneys at Law



8 Things You Should Do If You Are Involved in an Auto Accident: 2011

A Complimentary Publication

Alan Sackrin, Esq., Attorney at Law

Sackrin & Tolchinsky, P.A.

2100 East Hallandale Beach Blvd, Suite 200 Hallandale Beach, Florida, 33009

(954) 458-8655 | info@hallandalelaw.com





Summary

This ebook is a complimentary publication provided by our law firm as a public service to Floridians and others across the country who have been, or may be, involved in a motor vehicle accident. This ebook is a duplicate of an article appearing on our website, where much more information is provided about car accidents and crashes involving all types of vehicles (minivans, cars, sedans, SUVs, pickups, motorcycles, etc.) and how Florida law impacts both their injury claims and their property losses. We hope that this proves helpful to you and we welcome your comments, insights, and questions at info@hallandalelaw.com.

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In the aftermath of a car accident, try to remain as calm as possible. There are things you can do to help maximize your financial recovery, including:

1. **Get Medical Care / Examination.** At the time of the accident-tell the police, paramedic and emergency room doctor about anything that may be hurting you – be specific – anything you say can be used against you – so be honest and specific. Don't overstate or understate your injuries.
2. **Ask for a Police Report.** Insist that a report for car or motorcycle accidents be filed with the Police.

3. **Document the Accident.** Document as much as you can about the car, motorcycle, or auto accident or injury itself. Every detail is important, our auto accident attorneys will need to know everything about your injuries, any other losses (such as wages) you have suffered as a result of the accident, and any conversation you had with anyone involved in the accident.
4. **Don't Talk to Anyone but Your Doctor and Your Lawyer.** Talk to no one about the car, motorcycle, or auto accident or injuries other than your attorney or physician. You especially do not want to speak with an insurance adjuster. Our attorneys will be happy to assist you.
5. **Safeguard Your Vehicle for Later Inspection.** It is essential that evidence is preserved. If you think something is wrong with your car that caused the accident make sure to tell your insurance company not to destroy the car – meaning if the tire, brakes etc. may have been defective.
6. **Take Photos.** Be sure to take photos of the car, motorcycle, or auto accident scene, including any visible injuries and the vehicles involved. Preserve all photos and evidence.
7. **Get Witness Names and Addresses and Phone Numbers.** Get the contact information of anyone who witnessed the accident who may be able to help prove your case.
8. **See a Doctor.** Above all, immediately seek medical attention following a car, motorcycle, or auto accident. Be sure to explain how the injuries occurred to your doctor or surgeon. Mention any sensations of disorientation, confusion, memory lapses, or other conditions you have sustained. Again, don't overstate or understate your injuries.

Conclusion

This complimentary publication takes an article that was first published on our website and places it into an easily downloadable format for ease of access and use by anyone interested in knowing more about car crashes and other types of motor vehicle accidents and how they are treated under Florida law. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at info@hallandalelaw.com.

About the Author



Alan D. Sackrin, Esq. is a South Florida personal injury lawyer board certified as a Civil Trial Lawyer. Since 1982, he has represented individuals injured due to the negligence of others, including automobile accidents, slip / trip and falls, dog bites, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse, wrongful death,



swimming pool accidents, and premises liability cases. Additionally, he handles general civil litigation cases, including contract and commercial disputes, as well as appeals.

Alan graduated from the University of Miami School of Law, achieving a Juris Doctorate (J.D.) in 1982 with honors and in the top 5% of his class. His undergraduate degree was in 1979 from the State University of New York at Albany, where he graduated *magna cum laude*. Since 1994, he has owned his own firm with an emphasis in personal injury and other civil litigation cases. In 1991, he became one of the few Florida lawyers achieving board certification by the Florida Bar as a Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney, which means he is a trial specialist.

Mr. Sackrin has been featured as a guest lecturer at seminars on civil litigation issues. He has written chapters in seminar books, which topics have included evidence, damages, and civil procedure and he has taught an in depth course to paralegals on the essentials of civil litigation in Florida.

Alan Sackrin represents clients located in Hallandale, Hollywood, Aventura, Fort Lauderdale, Miramar, Pembroke Pines, Weston, Davie, North Miami Beach, Dania Beach and all other cities in Miami-Dade County and Broward County.
