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## What to do if you are involved in an Automobile Accident

\*The following is for informational purposes and not intended as legal advice or counsel.

If it is your bad luck and misfortune to be in an auto accident in Connecticut, keep cool and remember the following rules in order to avoid making the accident worse:

### **STOP**

Don't drive away from the accident scene even if it's just a minor collision.

### **PROTECT THE ACCIDENT SCENE**

Signal other drivers with a flash light or by placing road flares to warn oncoming vehicles of any obstacles in the road.

### **HELP INJURED PARTIES**

Call the local police or State Troopers and report the accident and the location. Don't try and move injured parties unless they are in immediate danger from fire, traffic, or an explosion.

### **GET CONTACT AND INSURANCE INFORMATION**

Obtain the name, address, license number, and telephone number of the other drivers and witnesses and the insurance information, including policy number and name of insurance carrier. If drivers won't cooperate make a note of their license plate number and wait for the police. For future reference it is important to write down the details of the accident, including date and time, exact location, road and weather conditions. It is ok to give the other driver your information, or wait for the police to arrive.

## **REPORT THE ACCIDENT TO YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY**

You should always report the accident in a timely manner to your insurance company. If you feel the accident was not your fault you can also make a property damage claim against the other parties' Insurance carrier after notifying your Insurance Company of the accident and that you want the other party to pay for your car damage. This may save you on future rate increases that may occur if your carrier has to pay for the property damage to your vehicle. Check to see if you have medical payment insurance on your policy if you are injured.

## **PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS**

Avoid making recorded or written statements to any party, especially the other parties' insurance adjusters. It is ok to give the police an accurate and simple statement. Never apologize or admit fault. Notify the Law Offices immediately and refer all bodily injury adjusters to the Law Offices telling them you are represented when they ask for a statement. Refer all legal claims served on you immediately to Attorney Einhorn and to your insurance company.

## **CONSULT A PHYSICIAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

There is often a delay between the accident date and the time when the extent of physical injuries are revealed or felt. It is important that injuries that seem trivial or minor at first be treated and observed as they may become serious in the future and the failure to note them to a Doctor may be used against you by adverse parties seeking to derail your claims.

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