

# GLOVE COMPARTMENT CHECKLIST

## TOP TEN THINGS TO DO, RIGHT AWAY, IF YOU ARE IN A CAR ACCIDENT

### □ **Call 911**

Almost every single problem or risk you are exposed to in the first few minutes after an accident can be handled, prevented, or minimized by an official presence, so call 911 first.

### □ **Take care of number one.**

**You have to take care of yourself first.** You may not realize that you are injured or even how severely you are injured. You may even go into shock. *If there is any possibility you are injured, dial 911, and get in that ambulance.*

### □ **If the other driver is “freaking out...”**

*If the other driver is freaking out, yelling, screaming, or menacing you, avoid talking, even eye contact, and if you can safely do so, stay in your car until authorities arrive.*

### □ **Duty to Provide Information**

*The easiest way to do this to use your phone to take photos of the other driver’s license and insurance card and allowing the other driver to do the same with your paperwork.*

### □ **Are the cars drive-able?**

If everyone is physically ok and you have exchanged information, you are “free to go” and you do not have to wait for police to show up.

### □ **If police are on the scene, ask for a business card.**

*Ask for a business card, or take down the police department name and badge number of the officer(s) responding to the accident.*

### □ **Snap some photos**

Use your phone to get pictures and/or video of damage to the cars, skid marks, the other driver, the license plate of the

other car, and malfunctioning or misleading traffic signals or signs.

### □ **Go to the emergency room**

*Go to the emergency room and have professionals check you out for injuries, and go right away.*

### □ **Report the accident to your insurance company**

Most auto insurance policies require that you report any accident within 24 hours of the accident. You can find an 800 number printed on your insurance card

### □ **Seek competent counsel.**

You wouldn’t go to a personal injury lawyer with your divorce, so don’t trust the handling of your personal injury case to just any old lawyer or the first one you find. *An experienced personal injury lawyer will listen to you, explain things to you, and support you through the process, and that is what you should be looking for.*

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