

Know Your Legal Rights

*“Know Your Legal Rights”
is a free legal education series
by [Dixon Law Office](#).*

*To request more information,
call 888-354-9880 or email
contact@dixonlawoffice.com.*



5 Action Steps After a Car Accident: CRASH

Have you been injured in a car accident? Every day at Dixon Law Office, we get calls from people injured in car, truck and bus crashes. They are looking for advice on what steps they should take to protect themselves and get the compensation they deserve.

To help clients and those who call for advice, Dixon Law Office uses a simple acronym: C-R-A-S-H.

C – CALL For Help

First, you should call the police. Insurance companies usually require this. You may be shaken up and not realize the damage and potential injuries, and a police officer can help assess the situation. They also make a record of the he said/she said.

Contact your insurance company within 24 hours preferably (but not the other party's insurance company until the investigation is complete).

You also should call a friend or family member to tell them about the accident.

R —REQUEST Medical Attention

Request medical attention if you are at all concerned you may be injured, as full symptoms may not appear until hours later. It commonly can take several hours for injuries like pain and stiffness to appear. Also, if you have any pre-existing medical condition, you should be examined by a doctor to see if that has been aggravated or if any injury has been caused.

Prompt attention ensures the best possible medical result. In addition, insurance companies want prompt treatment for the best coverage.

A – ASK for Information

Obtain license plate numbers and contact info of EVERYONE who was in the area. Try to obtain names, addresses and phone numbers of everyone involved, including passengers. An easy way is to ask for business cards. Ask for insurance information for the other driver. Do not assume police will gather everyone's info.

S – SEE all damage

Take note of all damage to vehicles and property. Be a detective; look for any damage and take photos of everything with your phone. Look for damage to roadways and note if stoplights are not working correctly. Look for skid marks. Make note of the damage to each vehicle, including headlights and taillights. Assess injuries to all people involved. Make a note of the weather at the time of the incident. Also, look for a video camera in the area that may have recorded the accident.

H – HOLD wrongdoers accountable

Hold wrongdoers accountable. People who cause injury or property damage often refuse to pay what they should. If they won't pay, consult Dixon Law Office, and we can hold them accountable for all damages they cause.

No one wants to be in a crash, but if you or a loved one is, remembering this acronym—**CRASH**— and following these simple steps can help you be prepared and get the compensation you deserve. We're here to help.

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