

# Personal Injury Checklist

By John F. Smith

- Immediately After the Accident
  - Report the accident to the police.
  - Immediately obtain medical treatment if you are injured.
  - See a doctor or go to the ER immediately after your accident.
  - Take pictures of your injuries immediately.
  - Take pictures of damages to any cars/property involved.
  - Do NOT make a statement to any insurance representative without consulting a lawyer.
  - Never accept an offer of cash, check or "private" settlement.
  - Never leave the scene of even a minor accident.
  - Never say you or your passengers are not hurt.
  - Never admit fault for accident.
  - Never offer to pay anything even if you think you are at fault.
  - Never administer first aid unless you are trained to do so.
  - Always exchange information and get names and telephone numbers of witnesses.
  - Always consult a lawyer immediately.
- Your Personal Injury
  - Keep a record of how you feel.
  - Keep a list of all doctors, hospitals and treatment centers you visit.
  - Keep a log of all work lost as a result of your injuries and treatments.
  - Keep a log of all other out-of-pocket expenses.
  - Be truthful to everyone about any physical limitation you now have.
  - Let your doctors and attorney know about all of your symptoms.
  - Do not hide past accidents or injuries from your lawyer.