

# **Five Tips for persons injured in Auto Accidents**

## **1. Report the Accident Immediately**

If you are involved in an automobile accident, you should call 911 and request that a law enforcement officer come to the scene and make a report of the accident. In Georgia, law enforcement officers are well trained in gathering evidence and documenting facts related motor vehicle collisions. Even if the other parties involved admit responsibility, you should always insist that a report be completed. When speaking with the officer, thoroughly explain how the collision occurred, and describe any injuries that you have received. Always keep a written copy of the accident report for your own records.

## **2. Seek Medical Attention if you are injured**

If you are injured in a motor vehicle collision, it is important that you be seen by a physician as soon as possible. Even if you feel your symptoms might eventually resolve, it is best to allow a medical professional to examine you and make an assessment of your condition. If there is any doubt as to whether you need to see a doctor, you probably should. Always provide an accurate medical history, including when you were injured, how you were injured, where you were injured, and where you are experiencing pain. You should always follow your doctor's recommendations, so that your doctor's treatment plan will be effective.

## **3. Secure all evidence as soon as possible**

Even if the other party admits fault, you should document your injuries and damages immediately. Be sure that you have clear photographs that show the damage to all of the vehicles involved in the collision. If there are witnesses to the collision, be sure you have their contact information. If you have visible injuries, be sure that in addition to your medical treatment, you have clear photographic evidence of your injuries.

## **4. The Insurance Company Does Not Have the Final Word**

Sometimes the other driver's insurance company will tell you that they are denying your claim, or that they will not compensate you for your injuries and damages. They do not have the final say in these matters. If you disagree with the conclusions made by an insurance adjuster, you have the right to a trial before a judge or jury who will independently decide these issues.

## **5. Contact an Attorney**

If you have any questions about whether you are being treated fairly by an auto insurance company, you should contact an attorney. If you would like a free consultation regarding your case contact Parker and Lundy at (770) 748-5643.