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What To Do Following a Car Accident

Even if there are no injuries, coping with a car accident is a frustrating, difficult ordeal. Caught up in the moment, many motorists forget that they should record important information about their vehicle, the other party's vehicle, gather all relevant contact information, and see if there were any witnesses to the accident. GJEL Accident Attorneys has developed a list for drivers to keep in their glove boxes in case they have the misfortune of ending up in a car accident.

Being ready to deal with the aftermath of a car accident begins even before you get in the driver's seat. Every driver should keep a set of emergency supplies in their vehicle so that they are ready to deal with any issue that could arise. The ideal supplies to keep close are jumper cables, a first aid kit, bottled water and food, a blanket, a flashlight, and disposable camera to record any damage to your vehicle.

After a car accident, the most important step is to make sure that everyone is safe. If anyone is injured, you should make sure that that person gets medical care immediately. Once it is clear that everyone is safe or has been helped, the next step is to gather the contact information of all people involved in the accident. If all people involved in the accident stay at the scene, which they legally should, collect their name, relevant contact information, and insurance details before discussing who is or is not at fault.

Now that contact information has been collected, it's time to survey the scene. With the disposable camera you hopefully keep in your car or smart phone camera, take photographs not only of the damage to both vehicles, but also the intersection, relevant road signs, road conditions, and other aspects that could have influenced the accident.

Following the steps above, drivers can ensure that they will be treated fairly after a car accident and not be taken advantage of by someone making false claims. Here's a quick rundown:

- Get medical help if anyone is injured.
- Exchange information with all drivers.
- Get contact information for passengers and witnesses.
- Take photos of the scene with a camera/smart phone.
- Sketch the accident.
- ONLY discuss the accident with police, NOT others involved.
- Talk to a qualified auto accident lawyer in your area.
- Use a service like Avvo.com, SuperLawyers.com, BestLawyers.com or Lawyers.com to research trustworthy lawyers.

For more information on what to do after a car accident and to access more safety resources, visit <http://www.gjel.com/news>.