

# IN CASE OF A CRASH



## A Guide for Minnesota Motorists

### In Case of a Crash: A Guide for Minnesota Motorists

*Keep your vehicle registration information and proof of insurance in this file.*

Traffic crashes occur on Minnesota highways at a rate of nearly 300 per day. If you are involved in a collision or encounter a crash scene, it is important that you know what to do, who to contact, and what information to record for future use.

If you are in a crash that results in personal injury, death or property damage totaling \$1,000 or more, you must file a report with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety within 10 days. To complete the report, you will need certain information about the drivers, vehicles and crash scene.

Record this information at the time of the crash to save time and ensure accuracy. Minnesota Motor Vehicle Accident Reports are available on the Web at [www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs](http://www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs) or through law enforcement agencies.

### If You Come Upon a Crash...

- Slow down, but do not stop unless you are first to arrive at the scene or are signaled to do so.
- If you are first on the scene, stop and assist if you can. Park your car well off the roadway away from the crash.
- Warn other drivers of danger with four-way flashers, flares, flashlight, etc.
- If there is personal injury, serious property damage or danger to other motorists at the crash scene, call for help.
- Contact the local police, county sheriff's office or State Patrol. If you do not know which law enforcement agency to call or if an emergency exists, call 911. The nearest emergency dispatch center will send emergency and law enforcement personnel.
- Provide location, such as distance from an intersection or milepost number.
- Account for all occupants of the vehicles and aid the injured if you are qualified.
- Do not move injured persons unless they are endangered by traffic or fire.

- Minnesota's "Move Over" law requires motorists approaching emergency vehicles with emergency lights activated to move to the lane farthest away from the emergency vehicle. Always use extra caution when approaching emergency vehicles and give the officers space so they can do their job safely.

### If You Are in a Crash...

You must take certain actions to ensure safety and compliance with the law.

- You must stop if you are in a crash — drive out of the driving lane, onto the shoulder and out of traffic. Turn off the ignition to decrease the risk of fire.
- Once stopped and out of a traffic lane, avoid walking into the traffic lane when exiting your vehicle. Stay in your vehicle if you can with your seat belt fastened — you are safest inside your vehicle. If you need to exit the vehicle, attempt to exit on the non-traffic side. If you are assisting at a crash, approach a vehicle from the non-traffic side.
- Protect yourself and the crash scene from further damage. Warn other drivers of danger with four-way flashers, flares, flashlight, etc.
- If someone in the crash is injured or killed, the law requires that you call the nearest law enforcement agency or 911 as quickly as possible.
- If you are qualified, administer first aid. Otherwise, do what you can to make injured persons comfortable. State law requires that you render reasonable assistance.
- You must give your name, address, date of birth and license plate number of the vehicle to other drivers in the crash.
- You must also, if requested, show your driver's license. This same information must, by law, be provided to any law enforcement officer at the scene.
- If a person involved in the crash asks for your insurance information at the scene, you must provide the name and address of the carrier of your liability coverage and the name of your agent.
- Insurance information must be given to a law enforcement officer investigating the crash. If you do not have this information with you, you must provide it within 72 hours.
- If a crash results only in property damage, it is not necessary to notify law enforcement. If your vehicle is disabled, have it towed as soon as possible, but drivers should exchange information for the report.

# Driving Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths: Buckle Up • Slow Down • Drive Sober • Pay Attention

## Crash Information

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Crash Location \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Other Vehicles

### Vehicle 1

Driver's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_

Class A  B  C  D

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Damage \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Passengers \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Vehicle 2

Driver's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_

Class A  B  C  D

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Damage \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Passengers \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Witnesses

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Personal Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Person to Notify in Case of Accident \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Diagram of Crash

