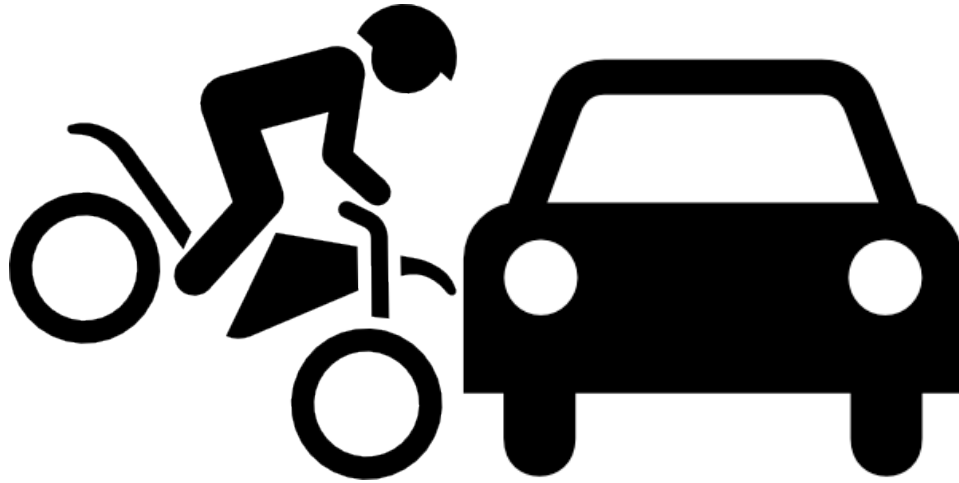


BMMC Rider Training



What Should You Do In The Event Of An Accident?

I. Your Exposure

A. Riding a motorcycle is an experience like no other. There's nothing quite like the freedom of feeling the wind in your face and experiencing the open road with little between you and the elements. In a word it's, thrilling. Unfortunately, that freedom can evaporate in a matter of seconds if you're involved in a motorcycle accident.



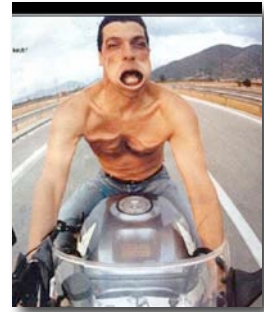
B. Injuries from motorcycle accidents tend to be more severe than other accidents and have a much higher risk of being fatal than any other type of vehicle accident. As you're aware, motorcycles are much lighter than other vehicles, and do not have the protection of safety belts, air bags, and a safe frame support to protect the rider from flips and rollovers. Because of these reasons, injuries such as burns, brain injuries, bone fractures, and even amputations are among the most common injuries associated with motorcycle accidents. For every one hundred motorcycle accidents, only two motorcycle



BMMC Rider Training

riders will come out of an accident with no injuries.

C. With motorcycle accidents on the rise, no matter what precautions you take to operate your motorcycle safely, you are always at risk of being injured or killed by other motorists on the road. It is important to know that your risk of being injured in a motorcycle accident is greatly reduced if you wear safety gear and take defensive riding lessons.



What you look like at 155 mph

II. First Reactions

A. If you are involved in a motorcycle accident, unless your injuries require otherwise, it is important to remain at the accident scene until you have assisted the injured, protected the scene, called the police and assisted them as needed.

B. Leaving an accident scene can result in a charge of "hit and run" or "leaving the scene of an accident" which can further complicate an already stressful situation. Also, if you leave the scene of the accident, you are allowing the account of the other driver/rider involved in the accident to be the basis for the police report. That means the other driver/rider may place 100% of the blame on you.



C. Do not discuss the accident with anyone except the investigating officer and then, only the basic facts. People upset by an accident may sometimes mistakenly admit fault. Never admit liability. Make sure you notify your insurance company as soon as possible to avoid them denying your claim for the accident. Contact a lawyer too if you think you might need one.

III. What To Do

A. It is essential to file a police report immediately following an accident so there is official documentation of what happened. Be sure to seek medical attention even if you feel fine. Remember, after a motorcycle accident you will be in a state of shock, which will interfere with your ability to accurately assess the pain that you are feeling or the injuries that you sustained. Therefore, even if your injuries are not obvious at the time of the accident, be sure to have your condition checked by a medical doctor soon after the accident. Advise your pas-



BMMC Rider Training

senger to do the same.

B. It is also important to exchange information with the other motorist(s) involved in the accident. You will want to exchange driver's licenses and vehicle registration papers with the other driver(s)/rider(s).

C. Write down the following information:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Date of birth
4. Telephone number
5. Driver's license number and expiration date
6. Insurance company and contact information
7. Written description of the other vehicle (make, model, year, license plate number and expiration date, and vehicle identification number)

- name
- address
- dob
- telephone
- driver license/date
- insurance co/contact
- description of vehicle with plate no. etc.

D. It's also very important to preserve evidence of the motorcycle accident. Follow the same procedures you would if you were in a car accident. Taking good notes and plenty of photographs (e.g. cell phone camera) of skid marks, vehicle positions and other physical evidence will assist you in "recreating" the accident should you need to later.

Hope this helps.