

R.B. BORMASTER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Accident & Injury Lawyers

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R.B. Bormaster & Associates, P.C.

**R.B. BORMASTER &
ASSOCIATES, P.C.**

2425 Fountain View
Suite 290
Houston, TX 77057

**FREE
CONSULTATION**
(713) 714-4000
(800) I-AM-HURT
or (800) 426-4878

Auto Accidents
www.bormasterlaw.com

IN THIS ISSUE

**After An Accident:
How To Find Out If
You Have A Good
Case**

**Tips For Working
With Your Doctor
After An Accident**

Tire Safety Tips

After An Accident: How To Find Out If You Have A Good Case

If you've been in an accident and want to make a claim, probably the first question you will have is "Do I have a good case?" The answer depends on several factors. They include:

Is the other person at fault?

For your claim to succeed, generally a person or business must be at fault – they did something wrong or failed to do something.

But don't rule out making a claim if you partly caused the accident, as in most states you can still recover damages. Also don't rule out a claim until you have all the facts. Many

people think they caused an accident when the other person was at fault. Our firm can help investigate the accident and advise you how the issue of fault will likely be resolved. We can also advise you if you're entitled to compensation even if you partly caused the accident.

Did you suffer damage?

To receive money after an accident you must suffer "damage." This can cover many things, like medical bills, lost wages, costs to fix or replace property, and pain and suffering.

Even if right after the accident you

Continued on other side

Tips For Working With Your Doctor After An Accident

After an accident, it's important to have a good working relationship with your doctor. Your doctor has a key role in determining how much compensation you receive as well as how fast and fully you recover from your injuries. Here are tips to maintaining a good working relationship with your doctor after an accident.

- **Tell your doctor about all your injuries.** Your doctor will make notes of your injuries, and these notes can show an insurance company or

court the full extent of them. If you don't tell your doctor about problems, any claim you make for them may be doubted. Also, by telling your doctor about problems when you experience them, they can be treated sooner and you can recover faster.

- **Follow instructions.** Accident victims have a duty to minimize their losses. So if you disobey your doctor – like if you ignore instructions to rest for a week – this can lower the compensation you receive.

Continued on other side

Working With Your Doctor, *continued*

• **Keep appointments.** If you miss appointments, this tells a court or insurer that your problems aren't as bad as you claim them to be.

Your doctor is vital in helping

you recover from your accident and showing the extent of your injuries. Following these tips will help you get better faster and help you obtain the maximum compensation.

How To Find Out If You Have A Good Case, *continued*

think you weren't hurt, you still may have a good case, as some injuries take time to develop. Since your injuries may be unknown for a while, call us even if they seem minor. We will protect your rights in case they get worse and you later have medical and other expenses from the accident.

Can you collect?

Even if the other person is at fault and you have damages, your victory has value only if you're paid. So before making a claim, you'll want to know that the other party has money or insurance so you can collect if you win.

But remember there can be many sources for recovering damages. So don't give up a claim just because the person who caused the accident can't afford to pay. There may be

other parties responsible for paying your damages, like the person's employer or your own insurance.

Are you within the deadline to make a claim?

Another factor to assess your case is whether under the law you're still entitled to make a claim. Laws set deadlines for making personal injury claims. If you wait and the deadline passes, your case will be dismissed, even if it's valid.

After an accident, call us to find out if you have a good case. We can analyze the issues of fault, damages, timeliness and ability to collect and tell you if your case is strong. Calling us promptly after the accident will help make sure that if you have a good case, you receive the maximum compensation for your injuries.

Tire Safety Tips

Driving on unsafe tires is a widespread problem. According to the government, over 25% of cars have at least one under-inflated tire and nearly 10% have at least one bald tire. Driving on underinflated or bald tires is dangerous.

Here are tips to make sure your tires are in good condition.

- Check them often for things that could puncture them, like nails.
- Make sure there's proper tread.
- Check air pressure regularly. See your owner's manual for the proper pressure. Check the pressure when tires are cold.



If An Injury Occurs

If you are in an accident, please call us. We handle all types of personal injury cases, and we will fight to get you the maximum recovery.

Please also give our name to a friend or family member if they are in an accident.

Thank you for letting us serve your legal needs.

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This newsletter has general information. Due to constant changes in the law, exceptions to general principles of law, and variations of state laws, seek professional legal advice before acting on any matter. ©2015 ANSI

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