
Sideswipe Accident Evidence Toolkit (Louisiana)

A print-friendly guide to common causes, proof priorities, and insurer defenses.

Fast Takeaways

- Most sideswipe cases turn on lane position and timing, not just the final scrape.
- Photos of both vehicles and the lane area can show angle, height, and paint transfer.
- Video sources can disappear fast, so request preservation early.
- Expect insurers to argue shared fault and “no proof who moved first.”

First 72 Hours Checklist

- Take wide and close photos of both vehicles, including the undamaged sides.
- Write down the lane you were in and where contact began and ended.
- Collect witness names and phone numbers, even if police respond.
- Save dashcam footage and ask nearby businesses about cameras.
- Keep tow and repair paperwork, including estimates and supplements.
- Note new symptoms and limits in daily activities (short, dated notes).

Evidence Sources That Often Matter

| Source | Why It Matters |
|-----------------------|--|
| Vehicle photos | Show scrape angle, height, and transfer. |
| Dashcam/traffic video | May capture who moved first. |
| Witnesses | Back up lane position and timing. |
| Repair records | Document force, alignment, and scope. |

This toolkit is general information, not legal advice. If the crash involves a commercial vehicle, a hit-and-run, or serious injury, talk to a lawyer quickly because evidence can change and deadlines can run.

Infographic 1: Evidence Blueprint

Use this as a quick plan for proof and preservation requests.

Sideswipe Evidence Blueprint (Louisiana)

5 steps + 72-hour list

5-Step Proof Blueprint

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1) IDs + plates | 4) Video + data |
| 2) Lane timeline | 5) Records log |
| 3) Damage photos | |

First 72 Hours Checklist

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Scene + car photos | Request video fast |
| Witness names | Tow/repair receipts |
| Save dashcam file | Symptom notes |

Go to Timeline Builder

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Infographic 2: Defense vs Evidence

Match common insurer narratives to documents that close the gaps.

Sideswipe Defense Vs. Evidence

Match claims to proof

| Defense Angle | Evidence Anchor |
|---|--|
| You drifted into their lane | Damage angle Lane photos Witness / dashcam Timeline diagram |
| No proof who changed lanes first | Traffic video 911 / CAD notes Telematics / GPS Consistent story |
| Minor scrape no real harm | Repair invoice Alignment check Symptom log Steady care notes |

Go to Defense Audit

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Free Case Review Prep Page

Bring what you have, and we will help you spot the missing pieces.

Babcock Injury Lawyers helps Louisiana families build leverage by preserving evidence, organizing records, and preparing claims for trial-ready presentation when needed.

Call Or Message Us

- Phone: (225) 500-5000
- Website: <https://www.stephenbabcock.com/>
- Contact: <https://www.stephenbabcock.com/contact-us/>
- Locations: <https://www.stephenbabcock.com/locations/>
- Lawyer: Stephen Babcock

Helpful Items (Do Not Delay Calling)

- Photos or video of the vehicles and the lane area.
- Police report number or crash exchange details.
- Witness names and phone numbers.
- Tow and repair paperwork, estimates, and supplements.
- Short notes on symptoms, work limits, and missed activities.

No result is promised. Outcomes depend on the facts, the insurance coverage, and the proof you can preserve.