
Top Five Mistakes After a Louisiana Car Accident

Print-friendly action plan, evidence checklist, and insurer-proof gaps (Updated 2026)

Use this toolkit to organize what happened, protect the early record, and avoid statements or paperwork that can lock in a bad narrative.

First 30 Minutes: Stabilize Safety and Proof

- Move to a safe location if possible and check for injuries.
- Call 911 when there are injuries, hazards, or uncertainty about safety.
- Take wide and close photos before cars are moved if it is safe to do so.
- Get names, phone numbers, and insurance details for drivers and witnesses.
- Write a quick note about what you remember while it is fresh.

The Five Mistakes to Avoid

- Waiting to get checked because you feel OK right now.
- Guessing about fault or giving extra details in early calls.
- Letting photos, video, and witness info disappear.
- Signing releases or taking quick money before the injury picture is clear.
- Assuming it is a simple two-car claim when work vehicles or extra coverage may exist.

What to Gather for a Claim File

- Crash report number (or the agency and report status).
- All photos and videos, saved in original quality.
- Witness contact list and a one-line note about what they saw.
- Tow yard location, storage paperwork, and repair estimates.
- A simple symptom and activity log for the first two weeks.

Evidence Blueprint (Quick Reference)

Five steps that protect the early record after a Louisiana car accident.

5-Step Evidence Blueprint Louisiana Car Accident

1 Get Safe + Get Help
Call 911 if needed
Get checked if
symptoms show up

2 Build a Timeline
Note where you were
and what changed
minute to minute

3 Capture the Scene
Photos of all cars
Video + road marks
Find nearby cameras

4 Protect Medical Proof
Describe symptoms
the same each visit
Track limits daily

5 Control Insurer Talk
Report basics early
Avoid recorded
narratives

First 72 Hours Evidence Checklist

- Photos: cars + scene
- Witness names + phones
- Save dashcam video
- Tow yard + storage
- Police report number
- Pain/symptom notes

Keep originals.

Share copies only.
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Defense vs Evidence (Quick Reference)

Common insurer angles and the documentation that closes the gaps.

Defense vs Evidence

Close the Proof Gaps

Common Defense	Evidence Anchor
Low impact little damage	Scene photos + repair estimates injury photos
Delay in care	Symptom log visit dates gap explanation
You said you're fine	Follow-up notes pain diary texts to family
Shared fault	Timeline + map signal photos dashcam/video
Pre-existing issue	Prior baseline new limits doctor summary

Tip: insurers argue from
what is missing.

Build your record early.

[See the full audit](#)

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Free Case Review and Next Steps

If you are within 72 hours of a crash, evidence can change quickly.

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What We Do First

- Preserve time-sensitive evidence (video, vehicles, witness details).
- Spot deadline risks and comparative fault issues early.
- Handle insurance communications so you are not boxed into a bad story.

Bring This if You Have It (Do Not Delay if You Don't)

- Crash report number, photos, and any witness contacts.
- Policy cards for every vehicle involved (yours and theirs if available).
- Tow yard paperwork or repair estimate details.
- A brief symptom timeline (what changed and when).