

8 MISTAKES

People Make After A Car Accident

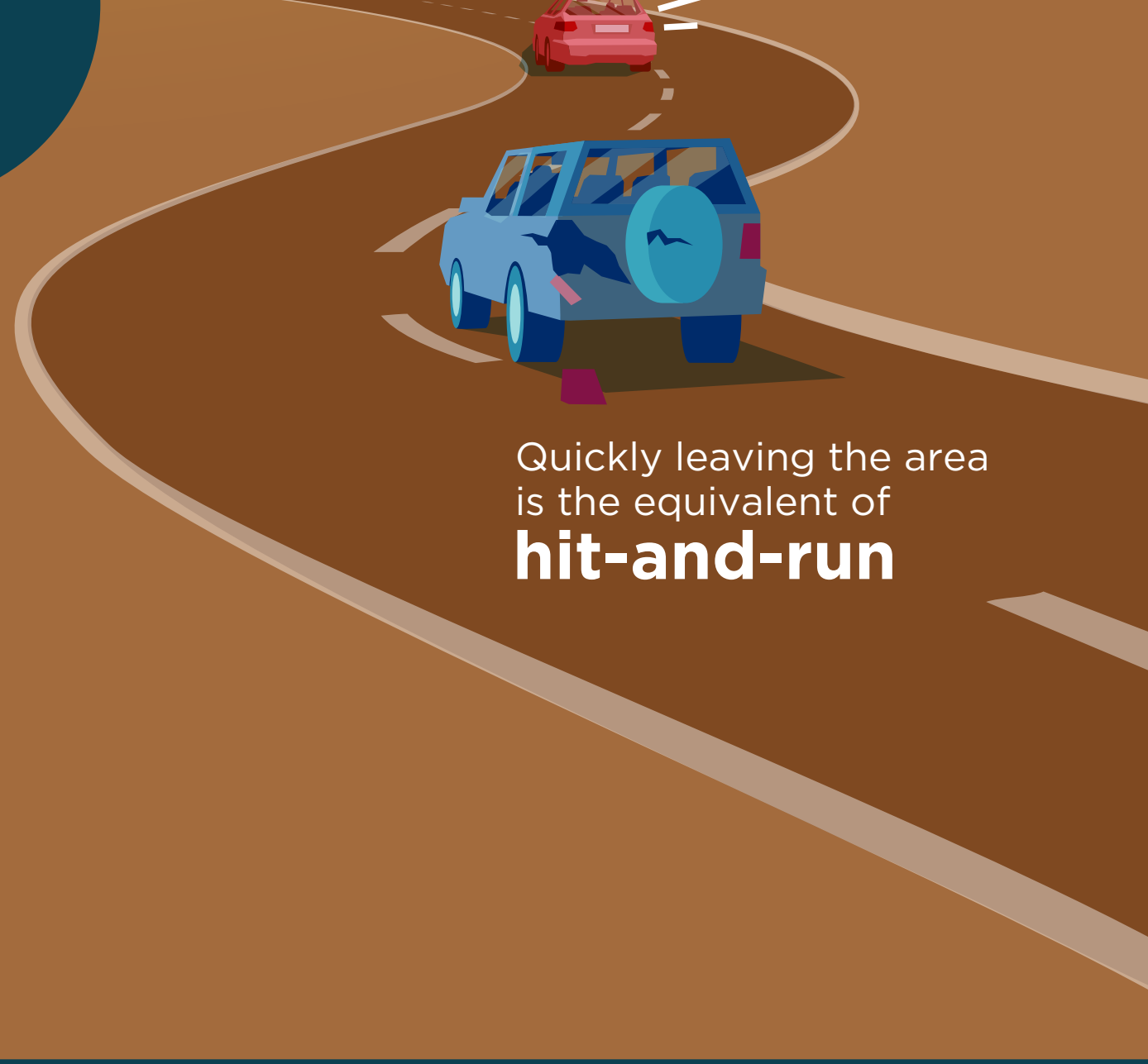


1 Driving Away Immediately

In Arizona

The driver who flees the car accident scene:

- Will be charged with class 2 misdemeanor
- Driver's license will be suspended
- Possible one-year conviction



Quickly leaving the area is the equivalent of **hit-and-run**

1+ hit-and-run crash in the U.S. every **1min**

*AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

2 Delaying Medical Attention



Road accidents cause injuries to millions of people every year

COMMON SIGNS OF SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURIES

- Muscle soreness or stiffness
- Painful movement of joints
- Blurred vision
- Ringing in the ears
- Throbbing headache
- Confusion or disorientation
- Deep wounds or lacerations
- Breathing trouble

Due to the forces brought by the vehicle collision, any of the symptoms on the left may reveal:

- Whiplash injuries
- Bone dislocation or fractures
- Internal bleeding
- Traumatic brain injury
- Spinal cord injuries

3 Saying Sorry



In a car accident situation

saying sorry becomes more than a sign of empathy.

“Sorry” = Clear admission of guilt

“Sorry” automatically puts all the blame to the one who said it.

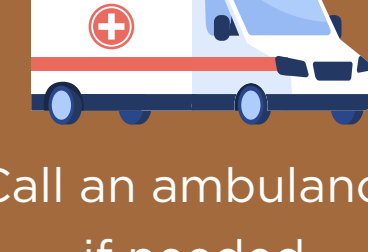
To avoid admitting fault & express empathy:

ARE YOU OKAY?

Ask if the person in the other vehicle is okay



Call the police



Call an ambulance if needed

4 Not Seeking a Police Report



10+ Million Unreported accidents per year

*NHTSA

Lack of documentation causes **loopholes on future injury claims.**

Police officers are adept in looking for clues to assess the common causes of car accidents. A comprehensive police report serves as justifiable evidence that may be used to determine who is truly at fault.

5 Failing to Gather Own Evidence

The other party may likely fabricate allegations to defend their claim. A car accident **victim must always collect evidence to support his/her case.**

Ways to gather evidence:



Recording videos of the of the vehicle collision aftermath



Taking photos of the placement of the vehicles and the extent of damages



Shooting pictures of skid marks and other crucial elements on the road



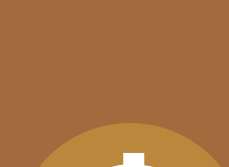
Obtaining copies of CCTV or surveillance videos from buildings across the street



Collecting all files of medical treatments, and pictures of injuries



Seeking interviews from witnesses at the time of the accident



Documenting the costs of damages to the vehicle, and all the related expenses

6 Posting on Social Media



Resist the urge to divulge any information - The victim might indirectly assume fault while answering questions and exchanging comments.

Insurance Companies Primarily Investigate on Social Media

Agents will pry on the other party's social media accounts to find fault and invalidate legal claims.

7 Speaking to Insurance Companies

Avoid speaking to your own and to the other company's insurance party.

The amount first offered will not be enough to cover all the damages from the accident.



Never agree to do any of the following:

- ✗ Signing insurance forms, waivers, and binding contracts
- ✗ Accomplishing medical authorizations
- ✗ Accepting first offers for injury settlement
- ✗ Giving interviews which may be recorded and used to dispute claims

8 Not Hiring a Personal Injury Attorney



A trustworthy **Arizona Car Accident Lawyer** will take care of the negotiations on all the insurance companies and parties involved.

Victims who hired a personal injury attorney **get 3.5 times higher insurance payouts**

than the amount claimed by those without legal representation.

*1999 study conducted by the Insurance Research Council (IRC)

