



TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS SINCE 1.1.2009

Since 1.1.2009, obligations related to traffic accidents have been amended.

Obligations of a driver – participant in a traffic accident:

- stop the vehicle immediately
- refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages and other habit-forming drugs after the traffic accident for the time necessary to set warning signs, whether the driver consumed an alcoholic drink or other habit-forming drug before or during the ride, however always until arrival of police in cases where the participants in the traffic accident are obliged to report the accident to police
- adopt measures to prevent damage to persons or properties, which are imminent as a consequence of the traffic accident
- cooperate at the finding of facts

Obligations of traffic accident participants:

- adopt suitable measures regarding traffic safety on roads in the area of the traffic accident; are authorized to stop other vehicles in case it is required by circumstances
 - report the accident to police in cases stipulated by law (see below); give first aid to the injured persons in case of any injury according to one's own abilities and to call the emergency service to the injured person
 - mark the place of the traffic accident
 - aid in restoration of traffic on the road, particularly regarding public passenger transport
 - report immediately to police any possible damage to the road, public facilities or environment if it was caused as a consequence of the traffic accident
 - on request, prove one's own identity to each other and provide each other with the identification data of the vehicles participating in the traffic accident
- in case the obligation to report the traffic accident to police does not arise, it is necessary to draw up a common traffic accident report, which will be signed and immediately delivered to the insurance company; this report must include identification of the time and place of the traffic accident, its participants and vehicles, its cause, course and consequences**

Obligation to report the traffic accident to police

Traffic accident participants are obliged to report the traffic accident to police **immediately**, provided the traffic accident involves:

- death or injury of a person
- material damage on any of the participating vehicles including transported objects exceeding the value of **CZK 100 000**
- material damage (in any value) on a property of a third person, **with the exception of the damage to a vehicle, the driver of which is a participant of the traffic accident or the damage of an object transported in such vehicle**
- damage or partial damage of a part or an accessory of a road (crash barriers, road signs etc.)
- traffic accident participants are unable to restore smooth traffic on the road by themselves without making excessive efforts

The change in particular relates to the increased limit for reporting traffic accidents to police above the value of **CZK 100 000** and to the fact that **according to the amendment it is not necessary to report all accidents with the damage on a third person's property** (all leased cars, borrowed cars, company cars etc. for the time being) **if their driver is the participant of the traffic accident.**

Traffic accident report

In case of traffic accidents, which needn't be announced to police, the participants must draw up a joint report on the traffic accident. The report must include the following:

- identification of the place and time of the traffic accident
- identification of participants and vehicles of the traffic accident
- causes, course, and consequences of the traffic accident

Other important information

In case any of the traffic accident participants refuse to cooperate at the drawing up the traffic accident report, call police to the accident.

You do not have to worry about recourse for frivolous calling of police. The proposed payments for a "useless" attendance of police previously discussed were finally rejected.