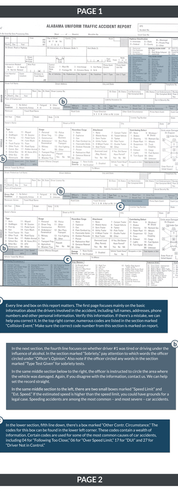
HOW TO READ YOUR ALABAMA UNIFORM TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORT

PAGE 1



Here's the sections in this report mirror. The first page focuses mainly on the basic information about the drivers involved in the accident, including full names, addresses, phone numbers and other personal information. Yes this information. If there's a mistake, we can help you correct it. In the top right corner, numerous codes are listed in the section marked "Contact Data." Make sure the correct code number (Type this section is marked) on report.

In the next section, the North Arrow is an arrow that shows which way is north. Accurate information is important because it influences all studies. In the section marked "Sketch," you should be able to see the vehicles involved in the accident. Also note if the officer circled any areas of the diagram marked "Type Text Sketch" option.

The narrative section below to the right, the officer is instructed to circle the area where the vehicle was damaged. Again, if you disagree with the information, contact us. We can help you correct any errors.

In the area under the sketch, there is the drivers' information, which includes their "Speed Limit" and "Est. Speed." If the estimated speed is higher than the speed limit, you could have grounds for a legal case. Speeding accidents are among the most common – and most severe – car accidents.

In the lower section, with lines, there's a box marked "Other Contributing Circumstances." The codes for this box can be found in the lower left corner. These codes contain a wealth of information. Certain codes will used for some of the most common causes of car accidents, including Driver Inattention, Too Close, "Ran to Other Vehicle" Left or Right" and "Ran Off Road" or "Driver Not in Control."

PAGE 2

If you or someone else sustains an injury in a car accident, there will be a letter in the box marked "Injury Type." In the section marked "Victims" near the top of this page. There are four "injury" types listed along the choices in the area marked "Injury Type."

Do this last half of the page. Here is a comprehensive "Text Legend." Make sure you agree with the officer's diagram and description of your accident. If the drawing lacks information, or the description doesn't sound quite right, we can work with you to crit the record straight.

Near the bottom of the page, in a section marked "Investigation," the third and fourth lines are reserved for the name, address and phone number of witnesses. If you can contact witnesses soon after accident, make sure the investigating police officer gets that person's information. Insurance companies highly value statements from witnesses.

PAGE 3

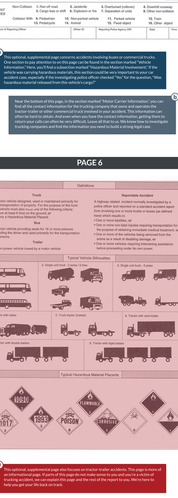
The top half of the page is reserved for the personal information about "Additional Accident Victims." Here again, you close attention to the box marked "Injury Type." The codes can be found on Page 2.

The bottom half of page is reserved for "Additional Narrative Space" or for transcribing officer's description of the accident. Again, make sure you agree with the officer's description of your accident. If something seems wrong, say something. We can work with you to set the record straight.

PAGE 4

This entire page of the accident report is devoted to a large amount of the accident sheet by the commercial truck driver involved in the accident. There is also a section for the trucking company and another section responsible for transporting any fuel and hazardous material. Use this diagram when determining who caused your accident and who should be compensated.

PAGE 5



This optional, supplemental page concerns accidents involving Buses or commercial trucks, commonly referred to as "Commercial Motor Vehicles" or "Commercial Motor Carriers" in the information. Here, you'll find a lot of specialized vocabulary. "Hazardous Material Involvement." If the vehicle was carrying hazardous materials, this section could be very important to your car accident case. Also, there's a section for "Hazardous Cargo" checked "Yes" for the question. "Was hazardous material released from the vehicle in crash?"

Near the bottom of this page, in the section marked "Motor Carrier Information," you can find all the contact information for the trucking company that owned the vehicle involved in the accident. Time is of the essence in car accident cases. Evidence can be lost or destroyed or others can lend to obstacles. And even when you have the contact information, getting them to return your calls can often be very difficult. Leave all that to us. We know how to investigate trucking companies and find the information you need to build a strong legal case.

PAGE 6

This optional, supplemental page concerns definitions of terms used in the accident report. Here, you'll find a lot of specialized vocabulary. "Hazardous Material Involvement." If the vehicle was carrying hazardous materials, this section could be very important to your car accident case. Also, there's a section for "Hazardous Cargo" checked "Yes" for the question. "Was hazardous material released from the vehicle in crash?"

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CONTACT ATTORNEY WAITE TODAY

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