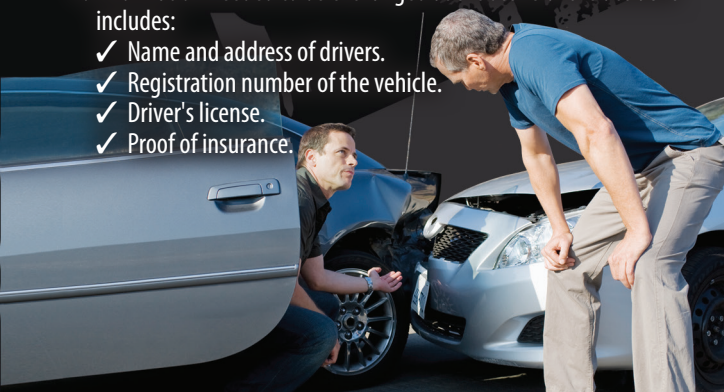


## RECENT UPDATES TO THE PA MOTOR VEHICLE CODE

- The Move Over Law aka the Steer Clear Law requires drivers to move over or slow down for all responders, including police, fire and ambulance crews, as well as stopped tow trucks and maintenance vehicles. If a driver is unable to safely merge into a lane further away from the response area, the driver must pass the emergency response area at a speed of no more than 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit and reasonable for safely passing. Failure to move over or slowdown will result in a citation that carries a fine of \$500 for first time offenders, \$1,000 for a second offense, and \$2,000 and a 90-day license suspension for a third or subsequent offense. Penalties are increased for incidents that seriously injure or kill another person.
- The Distracted Driving Law prohibits all drivers from using interactive wireless communication devices to send, read or write a text-based communication while the vehicle is in motion. All motorists are prohibited by law from using an interactive mobile device (handheld wireless device, phone, or computer capable of voice communication, texting, emailing, internet browsing, messaging, playing games, recording images/videos, accessing social media or otherwise sending or receiving electronic data) while operating a vehicle. A driver may not use a device while driving a vehicle except for communicating with law enforcement or emergency services to prevent injury to persons or property. A driver may use a device if it is a hands-free device or system. The penalty of violating this law is a summary offense with a \$50 fine, plus court costs and other fees.

## WHAT INFORMATION IS MOST IMPORTANT WHEN INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT?

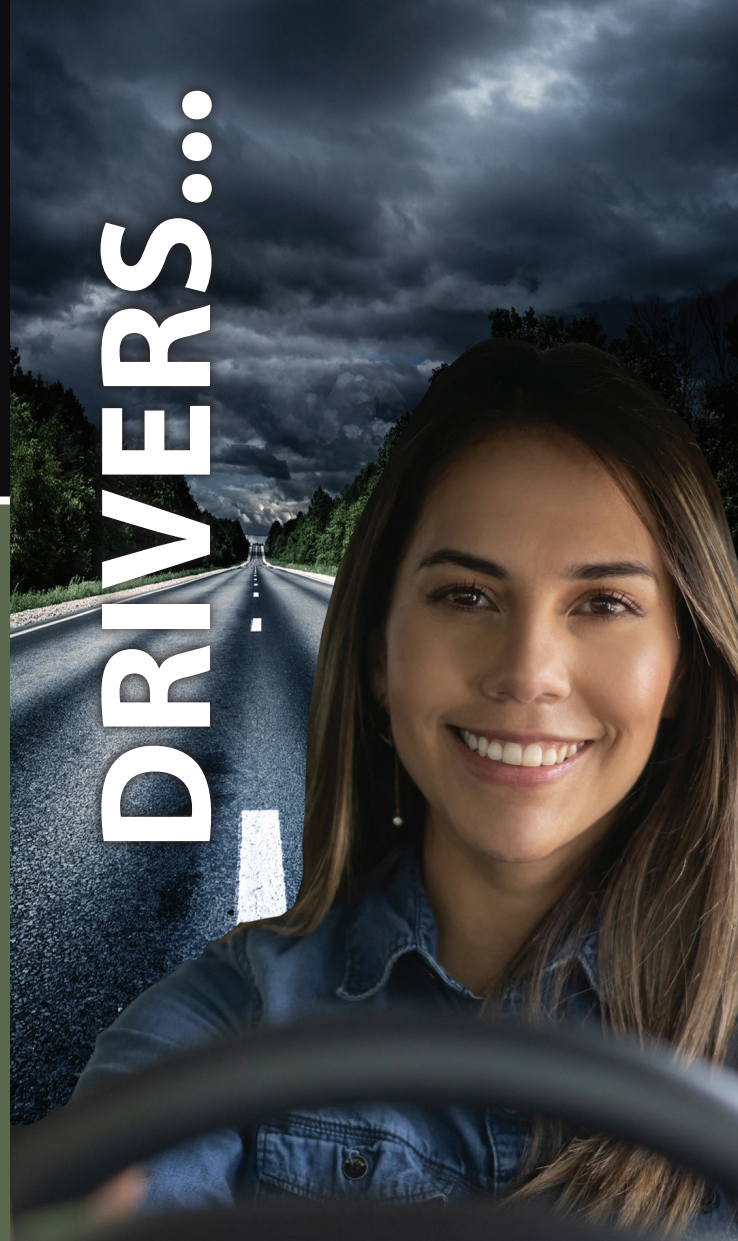
1. Never leave the scene of the accident.
2. If another vehicle is involved, be sure the occupants also stay at the scene of the accident.
3. Wait for the police and emergency medical personnel to arrive.
4. Information needed to be exchanged at the scene of the accident includes:
  - ✓ Name and address of drivers.
  - ✓ Registration number of the vehicle.
  - ✓ Driver's license.
  - ✓ Proof of insurance.



## CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

All licensed drivers are required to notify PennDOT of any change of name or address within 15 days of the change. You must indicate your driver's license number, old name and address and your new name and/or new address as mandated by the Motor Vehicle Code. If you are a new resident of Pennsylvania you have 60 days from the time you establish residency to get your vehicles registered and obtain a Pennsylvania Driver's License from PennDOT.

# DRIVERS...



# KNOW THE LAW

protect your driving privileges

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RPD-7/25-AZ



## COMMON VIOLATIONS

- Pennsylvania residents, unless specifically exempted, are required to have a valid Pennsylvania driver's license to drive legally upon Pennsylvania's highways. Failure to be licensed carries a fine.
- Be sure the registration plate is securely fastened to the vehicle to which it is assigned. If the plate is lost or stolen, you have 48 hours to report the loss or theft to police and to apply to PENNDOT for a new plate.
- Any person caught driving a vehicle while his driving privilege is suspended, revoked or recalled shall have his driving privilege suspended for one year and be sentenced to pay a fine.
- A "habitual offender's" driving privilege shall be revoked for five years. A habitual offender is defined as an individual whose driving record shows three convictions within five years for any one or more of the following offenses, whether committed singly or in combination:
  - Any violation relating to serious traffic offenses, such as driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance.
  - Any violation relating to racing on highways.
  - Any violation relating to accidents involving death or personal injury.

- Any violation relating to accidents involving death or personal injury while not properly licensed.
- Any violation relating to accidents involving damage to an attended vehicle or property.

Any further offense within a five-year period shall mean a revocation for an additional two years. Revocation requires a person to start all over again with a learner's permit in order to restore his driving privilege.

- If an individual fails to respond to a citation in a timely fashion, his license will be suspended until a response is made.
- You are required to maintain vehicle liability insurance (financial responsibility) on a currently registered vehicle. Such insurance covers the property damage or injuries you may cause in an accident. Your insurance company is required to notify PENNDOT of cancellation or non-renewal of your auto insurance policy.
- If you are operating your vehicle without insurance, you could face the following penalties and expenses:
  - Minimum \$300 fine.
  - Three-month registration suspension.
  - Three-month driving privilege suspension.
  - \$112 restoration fee for registration (\$188 for commercial driver's registration).
  - \$94 restoration fee for driver's license. (\$188 for commercial driver's license).

No one may drive that vehicle while registration is suspended. In lieu of serving a registration suspension, you have the option to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and the applicable restoration fee. You may opt for the civil penalty in lieu of suspension no more than once in a 12-month period. Payment of the civil penalty, along with your restoration fee and proof of current insurance, will allow you to maintain registration on your vehicle without the requirement to serve a three month registration suspension.

- If you are signaled by a police officer - by a visual or audible signal - to bring your vehicle to a stop and you are guilty of attempting to flee from the police officer, you can be sentenced to pay a minimum fine of \$500 plus a one-year suspension of your driving privileges.
- All drivers and front seat passengers in vehicles, light trucks and motor homes must wear seat belts.
- Persons convicted of speeding in an active work zone (where workers are present) can lose their driver's license for 15 days. Also, persons who are convicted of driving their vehicle at an unsafe speed and who have an accident as a result will lose their driver's license for 15 days. Pennsylvania allows the use of Work Zone Speed Safety Cameras to detect vehicles speeding 11 mph or more over the limit and can result in a fine.

## BEWARE OF ACCIDENTS. THE PENALTY CAN BE VERY SERIOUS

- Homicide by vehicle - Any person who unintentionally causes the death of another person while engaged in the violation of a Commonwealth or municipal ordinance. This is a felony of the third degree when the violation is the cause of death.
- The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury or death of any person should immediately stop his

vehicle at the scene of the accident, and stay at the scene of the accident until all requirements regarding information and rendering aid have been met.

- A driver of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in damage to another vehicle or property should immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident without obstructing traffic.

You should stay at the scene of the accident until you have provided all information and answered all questions to the police officer at the scene of the accident.

- If you are involved in an accident in which the vehicle or property is unattended, you should immediately stop your vehicle and locate or notify the operator or owner of the damaged vehicle or property.