

If you are involved in a minor incident, follow these **FIVE** steps:

**1. ASSESS IT**

Check for injuries. If anyone is injured, call 911 immediately and wait for emergency responders. Provide location including the milepost number and types of injuries.

**2. STEER  AND CLEAR **

Determine whether the vehicles are moveable. If so, move vehicles out of the travel lane to the nearest safe location.

**3. AVOID IT**

Once stopped and out of a travel lane, avoid walking into the travel lane while exiting your vehicle. Stay in your vehicle if you can with your seat belt fastened – **you are safest inside your vehicle**. If you need to exit the vehicle, attempt to exit on the non-traffic side. If you are assisting at a crash, approach a vehicle from the non-traffic side.

Protect yourself and the crash scene from further damage. Warn other drivers of danger with four-way flashers, flares, flashlight, etc.

**4. NOTIFY IT**

If there are no serious injuries, call your local non-emergency law enforcement number to report the incident. Give them your exact location and follow the dispatcher's instructions.

**5. REPORT IT**

Exchange driver, vehicle and insurance information. (See Motorist Information Exchange Cards on the other side of this pamphlet).

Report the incident as instructed by law enforcement and your insurance provider.

# IT'S THE LAW

## State of Missouri Statute Traffic Regulations Sections 304.151 and 155

According to Missouri law, when a motor vehicle traffic crash occurs on a highway with no apparent serious personal injury or death, the driver of each vehicle involved should remove their vehicle from the roadway whenever the move may be done safely and the vehicle is capable of being normally and safely driven.

**Section 304.151** Except in the case of an accident resulting in the injury or death of any person, the driver of a vehicle, which for any reason obstructs the regular flow of traffic on the roadway of any state highway shall make every reasonable effort to move the vehicle or have it moved so as not to block the regular flow of traffic.

### MoDOT CAN MOVE ANY HAZARDOUS OBSTRUCTION

MoDOT may have *anything* blocking the highway removed.

**Section 304.155(2)** MoDOT or any law enforcement officer may immediately remove any abandoned, unattended, wrecked, burned or partially dismantled property, spilled cargo or other personal property from the right-of-way of any interstate highway, freeway, or state highway if the abandoned property, cargo or personal property is creating a traffic hazard.

For more information, visit the MoDOT Gateway Guide at [www.gatewayguide.com](http://www.gatewayguide.com) or call:

**1-888-ASK MODOT**



**Involved in a non-injury accident?  
Move your vehicle onto the shoulder  
or other safe location nearby,  
off of the roadway.**



MoDOT cares.



## Motorist Information Exchange Card

Driver's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy/Group Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_  
Year/Color of Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness 1 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness 2 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Motorist Information Exchange Card

Driver's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy/Group Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_  
Year/Color of Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness 1 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness 2 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Moving your damaged vehicle off the roadway helps clear crashes quickly, reduces congestion and improves safety conditions for all motorists.

### Should I move my vehicle off the roadway?

Have you ever been involved in a minor traffic crash on the highway? Did you leave your vehicle right where it was until police arrived? Did you think you were "not supposed to" move it off the roadway?

### STEER IT AND CLEAR IT

Yes, you should move your vehicle out of the way. In fact, Missouri law requires that you must make every reasonable effort to move a disabled vehicle or have it moved so as not to obstruct the regular flow of traffic, as long as the vehicle is safe to drive and there are no injuries.

Police and insurance companies will not penalize you for moving your vehicle off the road.

### Clearing crashes quickly from travel lanes helps reduce congestion.

- National studies have shown that up to 20% of all collisions on interstate-type roadways are "secondary crashes," due to an earlier crash that was not fully cleared.
- One minute spent on the scene by fire and rescue personnel, police and other responders causes five minutes of traffic congestion.

### By moving your vehicle out of the way, you will help:

- Reduce the risk of personal injury
- Improve response and clearance times at crash scenes
- Reduce crash-related traffic congestion and delay
- Reduce secondary crashes
- Improve safety conditions for yourself as well as fire and rescue, police and other responders

**KEEP THIS** in the glove compartment of your vehicle and refer to it if you are involved in a collision. The cards at left can be completed or used as a checklist to ensure that you gather all information needed for your insurance claim.



MoDOT cares.

