

HOW TO HELP AT A CRASH?

Lee McClellan— Safety Officer



If you are the first one on the scene of a crash and want to provide assistance, you should park out of the flow of traffic unless there are victims in the roadway. Use your vehicle as a barrier to protect you and the victim and activate your emergency flashers.

It is important that you should remain calm to prevent others from panicking.

Evaluate the scene. How many victims, how many injured and how many cars, bikes or commercial vehicles? Is there fire, smoke or the smell of gas? Is there any leaking fluids or downed power lines? Above all else, be safe. Do not become a victim!

Do not get tunnel vision. Be aware of your surroundings and keep your head on a swivel. Call 911 as soon as you can. Know your location and the number of injured or victims. The 911 operator should be able to prompt you for needed information. 911 calls are recorded, so stay on the line and tell them everything you see as a witness.

Alert other drivers using a flag or a flashlight. Only use flares if you know there are no fuel leaks. There are many types of fuel like compressed gas. NEVER move anyone unless there is an impending danger of fire. NEVER approach a downed power line. Leave this for the professionals.

Providing aid to victims can be very emotional. You must stay calm. When providing aid, you are protected by the Good Samaritan Laws unless the victim says "NO". Even if the victim says "YES" and changes their mind, then STOP and wait for Fire, EMS or Police! If they are unconscious, it is presumed that they would say YES to aid. The 911 operator should be able to walk you through any aid that needs to be rendered. Just holding a victim's hand can mean the world in times of a crash. Be positive and calm and let them know that help is on the way.

Ride safe, practice hard,.

Your Safety Officer

Lee

