

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE INVESTIGATIVE CHECKLIST

VEHICULAR HOMICIDE

RCW 46.61.520

SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS

- [] 1. Washington State Accident report.
- [] 2. CAD printout that shows time collision called in and who responded to scene.
- [] 3. Report from first officer on the scene.
- [] 4. Report from officer who has walked the scene and noted everything, including presence of road defects.
- [] 5. DUI Arrest report, including implied consent warning.
 - a. Blood drawer's name and address legible.
 - b. All those in chain of custody for blood sample clearly identified.
- [] 6. Evidence log.
- [] 7. Photos of scene and the vehicles at time of initial investigation and later in the daylight.
- [] 8. Statements from witnesses to the driving.
- [] 9. Statements from fact witnesses at the hospital: admissions, demeanor.
- [] 10. Statement from suspect and his/her passengers – at least, document attempts to obtain.
 - a. If the suspect's intoxication is an issue, or whether the suspect was the driver is an issue, request suspect's consent for release of medical records.
- [] 11. If suspect's level of alcohol intoxication is an issue:
 - a. Statements from witnesses to what and how much suspect drank, the time period of the drinking, and the time between the drinking and the driving.
 - b. Copy of suspect's driver's license – to establish suspect's weight.
 - c. Consider obtaining a search warrant for the suspect's bar tab, if suspect had been paying for drinks.
- [] 12. Toxicology result on analysis of suspect's blood sample, or breath test ticket.
- [] 13. Autopsy report on victim.
- [] 14. Medical reports of surviving victims, if injuries may amount to substantial bodily injury.
- [] 15. Accurate measurements of scene: tire marks, position of gouge marks, position of points of rest, etc. Provide diagram of collision dynamics leading up to the crash. Provide diagram of vehicles at rest.
 - a. Identify who operated the total station, or who held the measuring end of the tape.
- [] 16. Collision reconstruction report: opinion as to cause of collision and method of analysis. This should include a speed estimate, and if one cannot be made, an explanation why.

- [] 17. If who was driving is an issue:
 - a. Statements from fire and EMTs re who was in the driver's seat and any admissions re driving.
 - b. Consider consulting with collision reconstructionist and medical examiner about occupant kinematics: compare injury pattern with contact damage and marks inside the vehicle.
 - c. Document driver's seat position while vehicle still at scene.
 - d. Obtain certified copy of vehicle registration, if vehicle owned by suspect.
 - e. If physical evidence of the driver appears to be in the suspect vehicle, consider seizing suspect's clothing/shoes during search incident to arrest and/or obtaining control hair/blood samples from the suspect. Apply for search warrant to collect cloth transfers, body fluids, hair, etc. in/on the suspect vehicle.
 - f. Photograph injuries to suspect and suspect's passengers.

- [] 18. If mechanical failure may be a claimed cause, obtain a mechanical inspection (pursuant to search warrant) of the vehicle by a certified mechanic. Include the name and address of the mechanic in your report. Consider seizing pursuant to warrant the black box and having a certified technician examine the stored data. Check for recalls.

- [] 19. If headlamp or tail light malfunction may be a claimed cause, obtain crime lab analysis of light filament.

- [] 20. If the suspect hit and ran, obtain search warrant for vehicles to collect paint transfer evidence.

- [] 21. ADR of suspect.

- [] 22. Provide contact information for family representative of deceased victim.