

# <u>Anatomy of a Police</u> <u>Report</u>

Damian N. Williams

1

Police reports are often the beginning of your case, not the end.

2

## Let's discuss

- •What I think when I look at a police report.
- •How we use what we learn in trial.

3

### **Initial Steps**

- Transportation code violations:
  - exiting a private drive;
  - · unsafe speed;
  - stop sign; and,
  - traffic signal.
- •Is the investigating officer in a traffic or transportation unit?

4

### **Initial Steps**

- •Spoken language of drivers, witnesses, and officers.
- •Notes on witnesses.
- •Injury severity might matter (consider changes to reporting guidelines).

5

#### **Initial Steps**

- Correct geographical information listed?
  - Highway?
  - •Address?
  - County?
  - County line splits?
  - Unincorporated area?
  - Companies sharing space?

6





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Anatomy of a Police Report

Also available as part of the eCourse Preparing Your Car Crash Case (2024)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2024 The Car Crash Seminar session
"Anatomy of a Police Report"