

Useful Information for Bicycle Cases

1. Basic Information

What were your height, weight, and age on the day in question? Are you right or left handed? Do you need corrective lenses? Were you wearing corrective lenses or protective eyewear? Were your lenses shaded? Was there sweat on your lenses? What is your riding experience (recreational, commuter, racer)? How frequently do you ride?

2. Bicycle and Equipment

Provide a detailed description of the bicycle: year, make, model, size, weight, color, etc. How many chain rings (front gears) and freewheel cogs (back gears) does it have? What type of brakes, shifters, wheels, tires, and pedals does it have? How old are the tires? When were the tires last inflated and to what tire pressures were they inflated? How long have you had the bike? How many kilometers had you ridden it? Was the bike functioning properly? Was there prior damage? Has it been serviced/repaired? Who services/repairs it, what was serviced/repaired, and when did this occur? Was the bike used/serviced since the incident?

3. Helmet, Clothing, and Cargo

Were you wearing a helmet? Do you own a helmet? Describe the helmet: type, year, make, model, size, prior damage, etc. Was your helmet buckled? Did your helmet stay on? Describe the type and color of your clothing. Was it reflective? Describe your footwear: make, model, size, pedal attachment, etc. What were you carrying, where were you carrying it (e.g., hands, backpack, panniers, child seats, trailers, etc.), and how heavy was it? Were you listening to music or wearing earphones?

4. Scene Information

Where did the incident occur? Describe the geometry, surface, and slope of the scene. Was the surface wet? Describe the type and size of relevant drains, manhole covers, debris, defects, etc. on the riding surface. How many times have you previously ridden through the scene? Describe the location of parked cars or other stationary objects relevant to the incident.

5. Pre-Incident Motion

Describe your path through the scene (straight, turning, etc.). Where were you coming from and going to? What was the purpose of your ride? How fast were you traveling? What gear were you in (front and rear)? Were you pedaling or coasting? Seated or standing? Where was each hand? Were you turning or preparing to turn? Did you signal your turn? Were you riding alone?

6. Detailed Incident Description

Describe in detail what happened. Describe the hazard/problem that triggered the incident. Where were you when you detected the hazard/problem? Where were you looking? Did you steer and/or brake? Which brake did you apply and how hard? Did your tire(s) skid? Describe what happened to you and your bike before, during, and after the incident. Describe what you struck during the incident. Describe your position and orientation when you came to rest. Describe the damage to your bicycle, helmet, clothing, and other objects you or your bike contacted.

7. Computers

What type of electronic equipment do you use: computer, heart rate monitor, GPS, power meter, smartphone, etc.? Do you store or export data to a computer or online service? Obtain the data files for the incident date and any other rides through the scene.

8. Lights and Visibility

What time of day was it? Was it daytime, twilight, or dark? Describe the lights, reflectors, and reflective materials on you and your bike. Were all of the lights on? What mode was each light in: continuous, flashing, etc.? How old were the batteries in each light? When were they last recharged? How long does each light last between battery changes or recharging? Where were the lights aimed? Could you see the road ahead adequately? Did your lights illuminate the hazard?





Let the evidence speak®

9. Injuries

Describe each area of your body that was injured. Did you observe cuts, bruises, bumps, abrasions, or swollen areas on your body? Do you have photographs of your injuries? Did you seek or receive treatments not covered in the medical documents? Describe prior complaints, injuries, surgeries, and medical conditions (focus on currently injured areas). What caused the prior injuries? Describe the intensity and duration of their symptoms. Were they active or resolved at the time of the current incident?

10. Other Exposures

What is your occupation? Explore work related tasks relevant to the injuries. Describe your hobbies/sports and the level/frequency of involvement.

Useful Evidence for Bicycle Cases

1. Scene photographs taken on or close to the date of the incident that show the overall scene layout and any alleged or possible defects.
2. The damaged bicycle, helmet, shoes, and clothing.
3. The bicycle computer and related data files.
4. Photographs and measurements of the rest positions of the bicycle, rider, and other vehicles.
5. Photographs and measurements of damage to the other involved vehicles or objects.
6. Medical records, including ambulance report, doctor's and nurse's notes, radiology reports, operative notes, and medico-legal reports. Photographs of the injuries.

As part of our investigation, MEA Forensic can inspect and photograph the scene, measure the geometry and damage to the bicycle and helmet, and download data from the on-board computers.



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