

# Standard Tort Claim Form Packet

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Please *carefully read all of the information in this packet* before completing and presenting your Standard Tort Claim.

## A New Law that Impacts Presenting a Standard Tort Claim Form

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1553, effective July 26, 2009, requires citizens to present the Standard Tort Claim form to the County's agent for receipt of claims, which is the Chairman of the Benton County Board of Commissioners (BOCC).

## Documents Contained in the Standard Tort Claim Form Packet

1. Instructions for completing the Standard Tort Claim Form
2. Standard Tort Claim Form (SF-210)
3. Medical Authorization
4. Vehicle Collision Form only for tort claims involving vehicle accidents/collisions

## Legal Requirements for Presenting Standard Tort Claim forms

In order to verify the claim and additional supporting information, the law requires that the Standard Tort Claim form be signed by:

- Claimant; or
- Person holding a written power of attorney from the Claimant; or
- Attorney in fact for the Claimant; or
- Attorney admitted to practice in Washington State on the Claimant's behalf; or
- A court-approved guardian or guardian ad litem on behalf of the Claimant

## Present in Person or Mail the Standard Tort Claim Form and Supporting Documents to:

Chairman of Board of County Commissioners  
620 Market Street  
P.O. Box 190  
Prosser, WA 99350

Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closed on weekends and official state holidays.

## Completing the Forms

- You may type data directly into the Standard Tort Claim Form and most of the Vehicle Collision Form, but you cannot save the data typed into the forms. To retain a copy for your records, you will need to print the forms after you complete them.
- You cannot import data directly into the Medical Authorization form or the diagram section of the Vehicle Collision Form. You will need to print those forms and then type or print onto the hard copies.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING A STANDARD TORT CLAIM FORM #SF 210

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- Before presenting a standard tort claim form, please read these instructions, the Standard Tort Claim form, and other appropriate forms in their entirety.
- Type or print clearly in ink and sign the Standard Tort Claim form.
- Provide all requested information and any available documents or evidence supporting your claim, such as medical records or bills for personal injuries, photographs, proof of ownership for property damages, receipts for property value, etc.
- If the requested information cannot be supplied in the space provided, please use additional blank sheets so your Standard Tort Claim form can be easily read and understood.
- The following are examples on how to complete the Standard Tort Claim Form (#SF 210):
  1. Smith, Karen Michelle
  2. 1234 College Way NW, Apt. 56, Seattle WA 98178
  3. PO Box 910, Seattle WA 98178
  4. Same (or residence at the time of incident)
  5. 206-123-4567
  6. ssmith@msn.com
  7. August 9, 2008, 8:00 a.m.
  8. If the incident that caused the damages occurred over a period of time, please provide the beginning time and the ending time in item 7
  9. Washington, Thurston, Tumwater, Campus of South Puget Sound Community College, Building number 22
  10. I-5, Southbound, Milepost 109, near the Martin Way Exit
  11. Washington State Department of Transportation, Highway
  12. Smith, Thomas Arthur, 1234 College Way NW, Apt. 56, Seattle WA 98178 (360) 456-3456; Tow Truck Driver, Nisqually Towing
  13. Unknown
  14. List all other witnesses having knowledge of the incident in question, with their names, addresses, and telephone numbers that are not listed within items 12 and 13. Also include a description of their knowledge. For example, if your sister was with you, when the alleged incident occurred, please include her name, address, telephone number, and indicate she witnessed the incident.
  15. Please describe the incident that resulted in the injury or damages, specifically answering the questions who, what, where, when and why.
  16. If you reported this incident to law enforcement, safety, or security personnel, please provide a copy of the report or contact information to the person you spoke with.
  17. Please provide all of your medical providers with their names, address, telephone numbers, and the type of treatment. If you were treated for a personal injury, please include your medical records and bills.
  18. Please attach documents which support the claims allegations.
  19. Please provide the dollar amount for your damages, including your time loss, medical costs, property damage loss, etc. This amount should represent your opinion of total compensation.
- If you are presenting a personal injury claim, please sign and attach the Medical Release form.
- If your claim involves a motor vehicle accident, please complete, sign, and attach the Vehicle Collision Form.

# STANDARD TORT CLAIM FORM

General Liability Claim form #SF 210

Pursuant to Chapter 4.96 RCW, this form is for filing a tort claim against Benton County, Washington. Some of the information requested on this form is required by RCW 4.96.020 and may be subject to public disclosure. Pursuant to the new law, Standard Tort Claim forms cannot be submitted electronically (via e-mail or fax).

Claim No.

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK**

**Mail or deliver original claim to** Chairman, Benton County Board of Commissioners  
620 Market Street  
P.O. Box 190  
Prosser, WA 99350

Business Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Closed on weekends and official state holidays

## CLAIMANT INFORMATION

1. Claimant's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last name First Middle Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)*
2. Current residential address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Residential address at the time of the incident (if different from current address):  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Claimant's daytime telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Home Business*
6. Claimant's e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## INCIDENT INFORMATION

7. Date of the incident: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m. (check one)  
*(mm/dd/yyyy)*
8. If the incident occurred over a period of time, date of first and last occurrences:  
from \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m. (check one) to \_\_\_\_\_, Time: \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m. (check one)  
*(mm/dd/yy) (mm/dd/yy)*
9. Location of incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
*State and county City, if applicable Place where occurred*
10. If the incident occurred on a street or highway:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of street or highway Milepost number At the intersection with or nearest intersecting street*
11. County office or department alleged responsible for damage/injury:  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons involved in or witness to this incident:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of all county employees having knowledge about this incident:

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14. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of all individuals not already identified in #12 and #13 above that have knowledge regarding the liability issues involved in this incident, or knowledge of the Claimant's resulting damages. Please include a brief description as to the nature and extent of each person's knowledge. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

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15. Describe the cause of the injury or damages. Explain the extent of property loss or medical, physical or mental injuries. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

16. Has this incident been reported to law enforcement, safety or security personnel? If so, when and to whom?

17. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of treating medical providers. Attach copies of all medical reports and billings.

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18. Please attach documents which support the claim's allegations.

19. I claim damages from Benton County in the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

This Claim form must be signed by the Claimant, a person holding a written power of attorney from the Claimant, by the attorney in fact for the Claimant, by an attorney admitted to practice in Washington State on the Claimant's behalf, or by a court-approved guardian or guardian ad litem on behalf of the Claimant.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Claimant**  
Form SF 210 (July 2009)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date and place (residential address, city and county)**

Claim # \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION (PHI)  
TO  
BENTON COUNTY**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Last, First, Middle Initial or Middle Name)*

Date of Birth: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize disclosure of my protected health information to Benton County for purposes of processing my claim for damages filed with Benton County.

I understand that by signing this document, I authorize the release of the following information:

Complete medical record for all services, including history and physical exam; progress notes; x-ray reports; inpatient admissions; operative notes; physical or other therapy; laboratory and other test reports; physician and physician assistant orders; nursing notes; and all other records and references designated by the provider as part of its medical record

HIV Test Results and medical information related to HIV testing or treatment

Psychiatric, mental and behavioral health records, including treatment notes, assessments, testing documents and results, and medical records related to mental health diagnosis and treatment

Alcohol assessment, testing, referral or treatment records

All other chemical dependency assessment or treatment records

Pharmacy prescriptions and reports

All letters and memos received or sent, including electronic mail, referencing my treatment. Information related to alleged sexual assault or sexually transmitted disease, including test results

Urgent care, patient or other clinic visit information

Gynecological and/or obstetrical information

All client records generated for or by governmental programs of which I am a client. Identify the program(s) and agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial records related to my care and treatment

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I understand the following: **(PLEASE READ AND INITIAL ALL STATEMENTS)**

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that my records are protected under HIPPA/PHI regulations (federal law) and the  
Initials Washington State Health Care Information Act (RCW 70.02).

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that my health information may be subject to re-disclosure by Benton County and not  
Initials protected for purposes of evaluating and investigating the claim I have filed with Benton County.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the specific information to be disclosed in my medical record may include  
Initials information regarding alcohol, drug or other controlled substance use, counseling referrals and/or  
a history of testing or treatment of acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time by notifying the Benton County Risk  
Initials Manager in writing, and that the revocation will be effective as of the date the Benton County Risk  
Manager receives it. Any records obtained pursuant to this Authorization for Release of PHI prior to  
the revocation will be deemed authorized by me for release.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that this Authorization for Release will expire 90 days from the date I sign it. I can also  
Initials authorize a different time frame for this release to be valid. This permission is valid until my claim is  
resolved or closed by the Benton County Risk Manager.

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*A Photostat of this Authorization carries the same authority as the original for purposes of releasing my records to Benton County.*

Signature of Authorizing Individual:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness (where patient is over 13 and signing the release):

\_\_\_\_\_

Where the signer is not the subject of records:

I am authorized to sign this because I am the (attach proof of authority):

- • Parent of minor
- • Legal Guardian
- • Personal Representative
- • Other

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**To the Provider or Records Custodian:**

Please send legible copies of all records to:

Benton County Risk Manager  
7122 W. Okanogan Place  
Bldg. A  
Kennewick, WA 99336

# VEHICLE COLLISION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

Please attach this form to your standard tort claim form, if the claim involves a vehicle collision.

<b>CLAIMANT AND INCIDENT INFORMATION</b>	CLAIMANT'S NAME <b>(A SEPARATE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH CLAIMANT)</b>				DATE OF ACCIDENT(mm/dd/yyyy)		TIME AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/>			
	CURRENT STREET (RESIDENCE) ADDRESS			CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE HOME WORK			
	(RESIDENCE) STREET ADDRESS FOR SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT			CITY	STATE	ZIP	EMAIL			
	State/County/City (if applicable) where occurred		STREET OR HWY	MILEPOST NO.	INTERSECTION OR NEAREST STREET/ROAD					
<b>YOUR VEHICLE INFORMATION (VEHICLE #1)</b>	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	LICENSE PLATE NO.	WHERE CAN CAR BE SEEN?		WHEN?			
	NAME OF VEHICLE OWNER		ADDRESS		CITY	HOME AND WORK PHONE				
	NAME OF DRIVER		ADDRESS		CITY	HOME AND WORK PHONE				
	DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER		STATE OF ISSUANCE		DATE OF EXPIRATION					
	DESCRIBE DAMAGE				ESTIMATE \$	YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY AND POLICY NO.				
<b>OTHER VEHICLE INFORMATION (VEHICLE #2)</b>	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	LICENSE PLATE NO.	STATE AGENCY, IF KNOWN					
	NAME OF OWNER		ADDRESS		CITY	PHONE				
	NAME OF DRIVER		ADDRESS		CITY	PHONE				
	DESCRIBE DAMAGE						ESTIMATE \$			
<b>OTHER NON-VEHICLE DAMAGE</b>	WAS OTHER (NON-VEHICLE) PROPERTY DAMAGED? IF SO, DESCRIBE WHAT TYPE OF PROPERTY WAS DAMAGED.									
	NAME OF OWNER		ADDRESS		CITY	PHONE				
	DESCRIBE DAMAGE						ESTIMATE \$			
<b>INJURED PARTIES</b>	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	INJURY	AGE	VEH 1	VEH 2	VEH 3	PED	OTH
				HOME WORK						
				HOME WORK						
				HOME WORK						
				HOME WORK						
				HOME WORK						
<b>WITNESSES</b>	NAME (ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)		ADDRESS	CITY	PHONE					
							HOME WORK			
							HOME WORK			
							HOME WORK			

**COMPLETE ALL DETAILS**

Describe conduct and circumstances causing injury or damages and explain the extent of medical, physical or mental injuries. Please identify name, address, and telephone number of treating physicians and other medical providers. Please attach property damage estimates and/or all medical bills in support of your claim. If necessary, attach additional pages containing information in this format.

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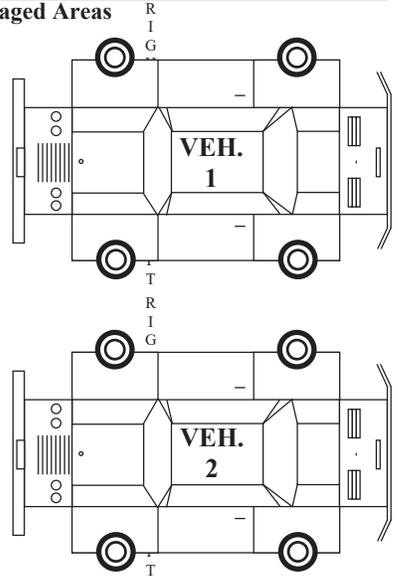


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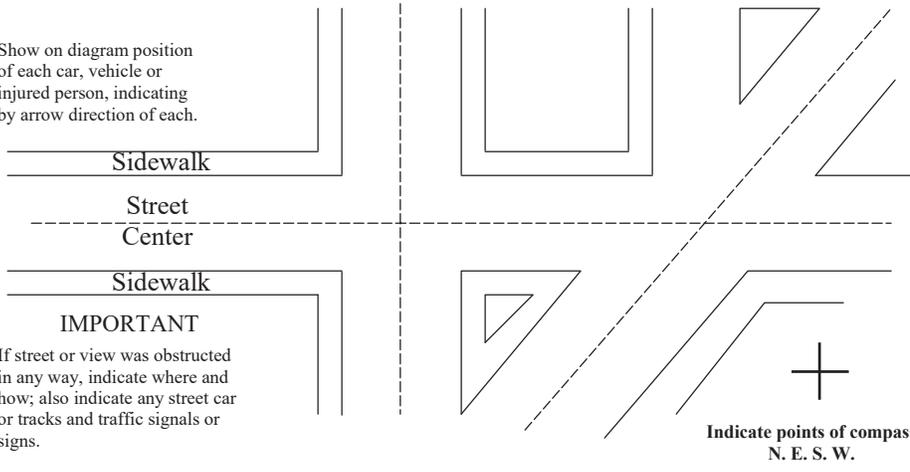


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- |   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Straight Road  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hillcrest | <input type="checkbox"/> One Lane              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curve – R or L | <input type="checkbox"/> Uphill    | <input type="checkbox"/> One and One-Half Lane |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Level          | <input type="checkbox"/> Downhill  | <input type="checkbox"/> Two Lane or Four Lane |



Show on diagram position of each car, vehicle or injured person, indicating by arrow direction of each.



LIGHT CONDITIONS (CHECK ONE)	TRAFFIC CONTROL	TYPE OF ROAD (CHECK ONE OR MORE)	VEHICLE CONDITION (CHECK ONE OR MORE)	ROAD SURFACE (CHECK ONE)	WEATHER (CHECK ONE)
1 <input type="checkbox"/> DAYLIGHT	VEHICLE NO. 1 NO. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNALS	VEHICLE NO. 1 NO. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> ONE WAY	VEHICLE NO. 1 NO. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> DEFECTIVE BRAKES	VEHICLE NO. 1 NO. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> DRY	1 <input type="checkbox"/> CLEAR, CLOUDY & OVERCAST
2 <input type="checkbox"/> DAWN	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> STOP SIGN	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> TWO WAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> DEFECTIVE HEADLIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> WET	2 <input type="checkbox"/> RAINING
3 <input type="checkbox"/> DUSK	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> FLASHING RED	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> REVERSIBLE ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> DEFECTIVE REAR LIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> SNOW	3 <input type="checkbox"/> SNOWING
4 <input type="checkbox"/> DARK STREET LIGHTS ON	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> FLASHING AMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> INTER-CHANGE LOOP RAMP	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> TIRES WORN	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> ICE	4 <input type="checkbox"/> FOG
5 <input type="checkbox"/> DARK STREET LIGHTS OFF	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> RR SIGNAL	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> ALLEY	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> PUNCTURED OR BLOWN TIRES	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
6 <input type="checkbox"/> DARK NO STREET LIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> OFFICER/FLAGMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> TWO WAY-LEFT TURN LANES	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	NAME OF INVESTIGATING POLICE AGENCY: _____ INVESTIGATING AGENCY REPORT NO. _____	
7 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> YIELD SIGN	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> SEPARATED			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> NO TRAFFIC CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> DIVIDED			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> UNDIVIDED			

**A separate claim form should be submitted for each claimant.**

This information is being provided to aid in resolving the claim.

*I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Claimant*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date and Place (residential address, city and county)*