



To Claim or Not - That is the Question..

After an accident, is it nobler in the mind to claim or not?

There is not a straight forward answer to this question, as a number of variables are at play.

First, we think it is necessary to mention that both you and your insurer are in business to make a profit. If you consider how much is your yearly insurance premium over your whole fleet, it is obvious that it could take only one claim on a car for the insurer's "gain from your premium" to be wiped out. A basic concept of Insurance is to spread risk over the whole of the insurance base, so that by collecting premium from the whole of that base they are protected. **But**, the insurer must be ahead after payment of claims.

However, the numbers are different in the Taxi game. As the vehicles often operate 24/7, there is a far greater risk per vehicle of a claim. Remember, one claim could wipe your insurer's profit, so next time your premium *must* increase. This goes for at-fault as well as not-at-fault claims, because although the insurer will eventually get around to attempting a recovery, it could be some time after the event before that occurs.

Let's not forget the excess you pay in making a claim. With your insurer, this is paid in every case, regardless of who is at fault. As we have all seen, that excess has increased over the years, but there can be savings to your premium with a higher excess.

No doubt some of you will have experimented with this balancing exercise of premium vs excess in order to save some money. What about the balance between making a claim and not?

Most accidents involve smaller amounts, and in our view make it uneconomic to claim in *almost all* cases. Your insurance cover in our view should be used as a last resort, to cover a serious loss.

Economics therefore dictate that you attempt recovery of your losses, in order to reduce costs.

UNLESS YOUR RECOVERIES ARE HANDLED EXPERTLY, WE SUGGEST ACCIDENT CLAIMS COSTS WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT EXPENSE FOR YOU.

rb lawyers have over 20 years experience in claims recoveries. By taking advantage of our service and our unique cost policy and structure, you *will* achieve significant savings in premium cost and excess cost.

For more information on specialist accident recovery services, **Robert Bakker**,
For a Better Result.....

298 Oxley Avenue
MARGATE QLD 4019

3883 3700

www.rblawyers.com.au