

Documenting a Rideshare Sexual Assault Incident

Thousands of passengers face sexual assault in rideshares annually. For this reason, it's crucial for rideshare users to know what steps to take in the event of an incident. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual abuse in a rideshare, you deserve to understand your options and legal rights, including reporting to law enforcement or filing a claim against Uber or Lyft.



Steps for Documenting Rideshare Sexual Assault

- 1. Ensure you are physically safe before taking any other steps.
- 2. Try to write down or record a voice note about what happened to you in your own words. Include every detail you can remember, even if you think it might not be relevant.
- 3. Document who was involved, the date and time of the incident, where it occurred, what happened, and how you feel afterward.
- 4. Save any in-app messages, ride receipts, or other evidence of the ride and who your driver or passenger was.

Legal Options After Documenting the Assault

Whether the harm occurred recently or months or years ago, you have different rights and options. First, you can report the incident to the rideshare platform, be it Uber, Lyft, or another app. You can also report the assault to your local law enforcement agency to create a paper trail in case you decide to file a civil lawsuit.

After reporting the assault to the rideshare platform and law enforcement, you may be eligible to file a civil lawsuit against Uber or Lyft for negligently failing to protect you from sexual assault. Your ability to file this type of lawsuit depends on the state you live in, how long ago the incident occurred, the severity of the assault, and other factors. An attorney can help you determine whether you have grounds to pursue a lawsuit.

Contact Helping Survivors to Learn More

If you have questions about gathering evidence after experiencing rideshare sexual assault, Helping Survivors can help you understand the documentation process and identify all your legal options for seeking accountability. [Reach out to Helping Survivors today](https://helpingsurvivors.org/get-legal-help) at helpingsurvivors.org/get-legal-help to learn more and get connected with an experienced rideshare abuse law firm.