

## Attorney Diminished Value Claim Contact Request

Date of Accident: \_\_\_\_\_

Body Shop: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

This firm is interested in informing and protecting its clients' rights. To that end, you are being presented with this document. Diminished value is the lost market value that can take place when a car is damaged. Even though your vehicle is well repaired, it may have lost value due to a blemished vehicle history report and other negative market factors stemming from the accident.

If you are interested in discussing diminished value with Forrest Law and learning more about what rights you may have to recover additional funds, please fill out the section below. Your information will only be used for this initial contact and for no other purpose.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Time to Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Fax or email this form to:

F:860.372.4839

matthew@matthewforrestlaw.com

Questions? Call 860.757.3828



Complete the simple form on this brochure, fax or email it to our offices and Attorney Forrest will personally call you to discuss your claim.

**Fax:**

860.372.4839

**Email:**

matthew@matthewforrestlaw.com

**INTAKE:**

**Q 1: Was the accident within the last year and a half?**  
\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ (approximate.) (If yes, we should have no SOL issues, go to the next question)

**Q 2: Was the accident your client's fault? Y / N** (If No, then you have a third party claim and move to the next question)

**Q 3: Was your client's car worth (estimated) more than \$20,000 dollars the day before the accident? Y / N** (if Yes, move to the next question)

**Q 4: Is your client's car leased? Y/N** \_\_\_\_\_ (if No, your client owns the car and they have a ripe DV claim.)

Explain the request form if over the phone, or show them this document if in person. Ask if it's OK if a lawyer contacts you regarding diminished value. Please fill it out and fax it (860.372.4839) to Forrest Law. We will take it all from there and contact you with any questions or concerns.

FORREST LAW  
72 Somerset Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109  
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W: www.matthewforrestlaw.com  
E: matthew@matthewforrestlaw.com

**My client's car has been  
damaged in an accident.**

**How does that affect its value?  
What can I do about it?**

### Lawyer's Diminished Value FAQ

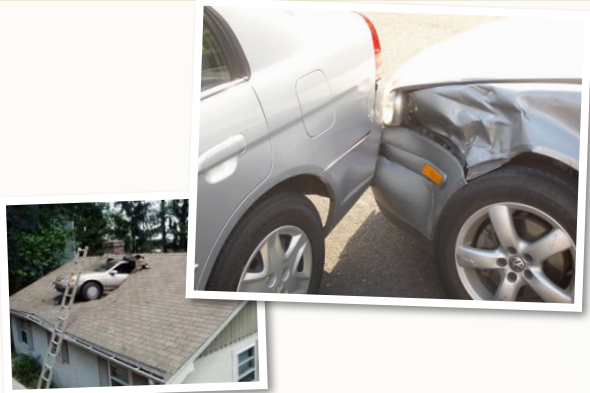


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## Automobile Diminished Value FAQ's

### What is diminished value? (DV)

Diminished value is the lost market value when a car is damaged. Even though a car has been physically repaired, it has lost value for a number of reasons. First, it has lost value because the market generally recognizes that a damaged car is not as valuable as an undamaged car. Consumers purchasing cars usually place less value on a previously damaged car. Second, repair shops are frequently unable to exactly duplicate many of the processes or products available only to manufacturers. In addition to other factors, the inability to put your car exactly the way it was before an accident leads consumers to reduce the value of your car.

### How does my firm benefit?

Many times firms discard clients and cases that have no or little PI damage, but have DV value. Those cases should be referred to Forrest Law, where we commonly pay a referral fee. It can be very little effort on your firm's part, with a high reward. Also, your current caseload most likely has a DV component that has not been realized. We will help you realize larger claims, and therefore bigger settlements and verdicts.

### How do my clients benefit?

Your clients benefit in two ways. First, they will get a bigger return and value from their case. Second, for most cases they will receive their DV compensation faster than waiting out a PI case.

### How do I recognize a DV case?

Essentially you are looking for a third party liability accident. Once favorable liability is determined, Forrest Law will use appraisers to determine the extent of DV and determine if it is a viable case.

### How do I refer a case to Forrest Law?

We have a one-column client contact sheet on this pamphlet which explains in concise terms the concept of DV to a client. We encourage our referrers to fill out the contact sheet and fax it to us. The contact sheet takes about 30 seconds to fill out. We take it from there and inform you if it is one we will be pursuing along with a referral arrangement.

### Is there case law in Connecticut on DV?

Yes, every level of Connecticut courts from small claims to the Connecticut Supreme Court has found DV a viable and successful legal claim.

### Will a DV suit hurt my PI claim?

No, many DV claims are brought in small claims court. The Connecticut Supreme Court has explicitly ruled that a small claims suit in no way forecloses a PI suit or evidence in a superior court action.

### How would you handle a large DV claim if there is a PI claim associated with it?

Simple. We will evaluate the value of the DV claim. If it is something we recommend be brought in superior court, we will provide the referring attorney the language for the DV count that would be added to the Complaint. The complaint's demand will then increase by that amount. The referring attorney then has the option to settle the PI, DV, or both with the insurance company. If your firm settles the PI portion only, simply withdraw the PI portion of the complaint and Forrest Law will continue with the DV portion (and if successful pay the referring attorney a referral fee). If the referring attorney settles the DV portion, then the standard referral fee will be due Forrest Law. Most cases do not fall in this scenario.

For more information, please contact Forrest Law

P: 860-757-3828

E: [matthew@matthewforrestlaw.com](mailto:matthew@matthewforrestlaw.com)

W: [matthewforrestlaw.com](http://matthewforrestlaw.com).

**FORREST LAW**

## Examples of recent diminished value claims and their values

Some of these vehicles had little apparent damage on the outside and were caused by slow moving vehicles.

### 2010 BMW 535XI

**\$16,800  
DIMINISHED VALUE**  
Severe front end damage.



Avon, Connecticut

### 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA

**\$7,850  
DIMINISHED VALUE**  
Medium rear end accident.



Wethersfield, Connecticut

### 2009 MAZDA 5

**\$3,125  
DIMINISHED VALUE**  
Moderate damage to front right quarter of car. Low-speed accident, and drivable after accident.



Bloomfield, Connecticut

### 2004 BMW 530I

**\$4,650  
DIMINISHED VALUE**  
Left rear moderate damage to vehicle. No injuries. Car was parked when struck.



Simsbury, Connecticut