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Legal Update



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In This Issue

This issue of *Legal Update* discusses many of the ways lawyers can help people who are in a car or other kind of accident. It also discusses compensation people who suffer a work injury may receive, and it lists some of the top hazards that are in the home.

If you have a question about any article, please call us.

*Alan L. Derzon
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10 Ways Lawyers Help You After An Accident

If you're in a car or other kind of accident, probably the most important decision you have is whether to make a claim alone or use a lawyer. There are many reasons why you should use a lawyer when making an accident claim. Here are 10 important ways a lawyer can help you after an accident.

1. Help you get the proper medical treatment for your injuries. Your lawyer can recommend doctors who are good for treating the kind of injuries you suffered.

2. Evaluate your claim and tell you

how much money you are legally entitled to receive. In contrast, insurance adjusters won't tell you everything the law entitles you to be compensated for. That's because they work for the insurance company, not you, and their job is to pay you as little as possible.

3. Explain your legal rights. Not knowing all your rights can cause you to receive a smaller recovery.

4. Collect evidence for your claim and interview witnesses. This helps make sure the best case is presented for you.

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About Our Firm

We handle all types of personal injury cases, including:

- Auto Accidents
- Slip and Falls
- Product Injuries
- Medical Malpractice
- Dog Bites
- Work Injuries

Free Consultation

(414) 276-2100

or

1-800-249-4LAW

Hurt On The Job? You May Be Entitled To More Than Workers' Compensation Benefits

If you are hurt on the job, you are likely entitled to receive workers' compensation benefits, including compensation for medical bills and any disability you suffer.

In many cases, workers hurt on the job can receive more than just workers' compensation. They can also make a claim against third parties legally liable for the injury. A recent case is an example.

A man who worked for an office cleaning company was injured when he stepped on a metal grate that buckled and he fell several feet. The man received workers' compensation benefits. He also made a claim against the office

building's owner. The owner knew about the loose grate but didn't try to fix it or prevent injuries. The parties settled, with the man receiving compensation.

This case is a reminder that if you are hurt on the job, you may be entitled to more than workers' compensation. After a work injury, seek legal help to learn your rights. Your lawyer can advise you about making a workers' compensation claim and tell you if other parties are liable to pay you. Act fast, as the time right after a work injury can be vital to your workers' compensation claim and any other legal claims you may have.

Insurance Company Liable For Mistreating Policyholder Whose Son Died In Accident

Insurance companies claim to help their policyholders after an accident. But the truth is many insurance companies go to great lengths to avoid paying valid claims. A recent case is an example.

A 21-year-old man was killed when a drunk driver hit his car. His father made a claim to the insurance company. The insurer tried hard to avoid paying the father, including raising invalid defenses. Only after several years did the insurance company finally pay. The father then took the insurer to court for not properly investigating the incident and unfairly delaying payment. A jury ruled for the father and awarded him money, including punitive damages for the bad way the insurance company handled the claim.

10 Ways Lawyers Help After An Accident, *continued*

5. Handle all calls and negotiations with insurance companies and their lawyers. Not only does this take the burden off you, but your lawyer knows tactics insurance companies use to lower accident payouts and won't be misled by them -- which will likely mean more money for you.

6. Help you get your car fixed, or get you compensation if it's totaled.

7. Help you get your medical bills paid.

8. Recover your lost wages plus money for any lost earning ability you suffer from the accident.

9. Recover all the compensation you are entitled to receive for your pain and suffering.

10. Recover for you all other damages you are entitled to receive as a result of your accident.

These are just some of the ways a lawyer helps you after an accident. If you are in an accident, don't handle your claim alone. Instead, seek a lawyer's help. A lawyer makes recovering damages easier, you have a much better chance of obtaining compensation, and you will likely get more money.

Top Hidden Home Hazards List Released

To help promote safety, the government recently released a list of the top hidden hazards in the home. They include:

■ Small magnets used in toys and jewelry. These can break off and be swallowed by children.

■ Recalled products. Many injuries are caused by recalled products people are still using.

■ Tip overs of furniture and other large items. To reduce injuries, be sure large objects are stable and properly anchored.

■ Windows and coverings. Many children are hurt by strangling on window drape and blind cords, or by falling from windows. To protect kids, safeguard your windows and be sure children can't reach window cords and chains.

If An Injury Occurs

No one expects to be in an accident. But if you are in one, call us to find out about your rights. We will fight to obtain the maximum compensation for you.

Please also give our name to a friend or family member if they are in an accident.

Thank you for letting us serve your legal needs.

This newsletter is published for this firm's clients and friends. It has general information. Due to changes in the law, exceptions to general rules of law, and variations of state laws, seek professional legal advice before acting on any matter. ©2008 ANSI

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