

Ask the Expert

What every West Georgian should know about...

Contracting a Lawyer for a Personal Injury Case

Q I've been hurt in an accident and want to file a claim for my injuries. What's the first thing I should do?

A Before you actually file a claim for your injuries, I would advise you to make sure you have all of your documents in order. This would include all of the information pertaining to the accident, such as the police report and copies of any expenses and bills that you have. Additionally, it is important that you have all of your medical records in order which explain the nature of your injuries and the out of pocket expenses. If you have lost time from work due to the nature of your injuries, I would also recommend that you have your employer outline your time missed along with the lost wages you have suffered due to your injuries.

Q Is there a deadline for filing a lawsuit seeking compensation for my injuries?

A Yes, in Georgia, depending on the nature of your claim, you must be cautious of the specific statute of limitations that apply to your case. If you are injured via an

automobile accident or some other personal injury claim, you have two years from the date of the accident to file a lawsuit against the individual who caused your injuries.

Q How can I legally prove who was at fault for an accident?

A There are a number of ways in which you can meet the burden of proof required to show negligence for an accident resulting in your injuries. When an individual is hurt through a personal injury accident many times the police are called to report the accident/injury. The police report /incident report often identifies the individual or action that caused the accident. Eye witnesses are another way to establish liability. Additional methods may be necessary to prove fault, including hiring private investigators or recreational experts who can establish fault and liability necessary to obtain a verdict in your favor.

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Tim MacMillan
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Qualifications

Tim MacMillan received his Juris Doctor in 1998. Tim practices in the legal areas of Family Law, Personal Injury, Worker's Compensation, and Wills. He is also a certified mediator. He has been practicing law in Carrollton since July 2001.

**Personal Injury • Family Law
Criminal Law • Worker's Compensation**

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