

How Will An Attorney Work For You?

***You Have Enough to Worry About.** Anxiety and physical pain caused by an injury should not be unnecessarily compounded by worry about insurance claims. It is also quite common for victims of traumatic injury to be misled or intimidated by insurers into forfeiting their legal rights. Laws relating to insurance and personal injury are complex and subject to frequent change. An attorney's expertise is invaluable, not only in dealing with insurance matters on your behalf, but also in explaining the law, and protecting your legal rights.*

When You Win, We Win

The attorney's fee, which amounts to one-third of the final settlement, is not paid until the conclusion of your case. If you are unsure whether or not you need an attorney, there is no fee for an initial consultation at Adler•Giersch PS.

We'll Take Time to Settle Things Right

It is much better not to "rush" the settlement of your claim because the release you sign at the end of your case is final. Settlement discussions should not begin until your doctor says your recovery is complete. Negotiations with the insurance company will begin shortly after your attorney receives your doctor's final report.

Won't My Insurance Company Handle the Case?

If you have sustained an injury as a result of someone else's negligence, whether in a motor vehicle collision or a different situation, the insurance companies will try to keep their costs to a minimum. You will likely be asked to sign a release form and "settle" as soon as possible. Although

it may be tempting at such a stressful time to accept the settlement money, there are some important points to keep in mind:

- Until your doctor believes your recovery is complete and prepares a final report stating that you have returned to pre-injury status, you cannot be certain that future accident-related medical costs will not be incurred.
- Once you sign the insurance company's release form, the matter is final. Should problems develop later, you have no recourse. All additional expenses related to the accident will be yours to pay alone.
- It is not uncommon for pain and other injury symptoms to show up a considerable time after the initial trauma.
- If your injury was caused by another person's negligence, you are entitled to compensation for your pain and suffering, medical care, wage loss, and other financial losses. It is likely that the insurance company will not offer this information to you voluntarily.

Steps To Resolve A Personal Injury Claim

1. Initial Phone Contact

When you call Adler•Giersch PS for the first time, we will answer your questions, provide initial advice, and schedule a follow-up telephone call or office appointment to talk with an attorney about your case.

2. The Initial Confidential Consultation

During the first office or telephone appointment we will obtain information from you about the incident and your injuries, then advise you of your legal rights and answer questions. We will discuss whether or not you need to hire an attorney.

3. Obtaining Legal and Medical Information

If you decide to hire our firm, your attorney and paralegal will gather the police report, all insurance information, and your medical records. They will also contact witnesses, health care providers to obtain medical-legal reports, and hire investigators or accident reconstructionists, if necessary.

4. Case Evaluation and Settlement Negotiations

After all pertinent information is obtained and your health care providers have determined that you have reached pre-injury

condition or maximum recovery, a "demand letter" is written and mailed to the insurance company. The demand letter presents the facts of the case, your injuries, and how the traumatic injuries have impacted your life. It also requests a monetary amount to settle the case. The vast majority of claims settle at this stage. If, however, the insurance company refuses to admit responsibility or compensate you fairly, a lawsuit may then be filed. This is done only with your consent.

5. Starting a Lawsuit

A lawsuit may be filed, but only with your express permission, and generally when all attempts to resolve your case through negotiations have been unsuccessful. In Washington State, most injury victims typically have three years from the date of the collision or incident to settle the claim or file a lawsuit. A lawsuit begins when an attorney prepares legal documents called the Summons and Complaint and has it filed in court and served on the responsible party.

When you hire an attorney specializing in personal injury law, all of the resources and support staff of a highly trained professional are on your side to protect your legal rights and interests.

Compassionate Counsel, Tough Advocacy

Find Yourself the Best Attorney Possible. Any person injured as a result of someone else's negligence should consult an experienced personal injury attorney. The law firm of Adler•Giersch PS has received the highest rating (AV) for its preeminent legal ability, expertise, integrity, and overall professional excellence as determined by their attorney-peers in a confidential survey by the prestigious national attorney directory service, Martindale Hubbell.

From Seattle to Bellevue and Everett to Kent, recovering from traumatic personal injury in Washington requires *compassionate counsel and tough advocacy*. It demands a commitment by your attorney to helping you achieve a complete and meaningful recovery.

We are one of Washington's most experienced personal injury law firms. We know that helping you recover from your traumatic injury can take many forms – physical recovery, emotional recovery, occupational recovery, and financial recovery.

Our Focus

Our practice is focused and dedicated exclusively to personal injury and insurance law. We do nothing else. Devoting our law practice to clients with personal injury claims allows us to stay on top of changes in the law, insurance practices, and health care treatment advances.

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Our Attorneys

Our personal injury attorneys, paralegals and staff are skilled and caring professionals who understand that our clients come to us with individual needs and circumstances. We listen and find solutions.

Our Tough Advocacy

We stand up to insurance companies who act unfairly. We protect our clients' access to their health care of choice. We fight for fair compensation for our clients. You won't see us on TV or in the yellow pages. New clients come to us from word of mouth referrals because we are good at what we do.

Our Accessibility

We understand how important it is to be able to talk to your attorney and paralegal when you have a question, concern, or just want to know what is going on.

Purpose. Adler•Giersch PS strives to provide the highest quality legal representation and legendary service to victims of personal injury through advocacy, accessibility and knowledge.

If you need advice or would like some questions answered, we'll be glad to help. Simply give us a call.

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Do I Need an Attorney for My Personal Injury?



When you hire an attorney specializing in personal injury law, all of the resources and support staff of a highly trained professional are on your side to protect your legal rights and interests.

