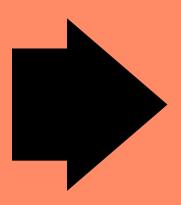
11 QUESTIONS AN ATTORNEY MAY ASK BEFORE ACCEPTING YOUR PERSONAL INJURY CASE



Before accepting your case, an attorney will need to know some details of the case. Here are 11 questions they may ask, and why they're important:

HAPPENS O1 WHEN DID

Did the incident happen recently, or some time ago?

If it was a while ago, an attorney will want to find out if it's approaching the statute of limitations. The sooner you contact an attorney after being injured, the better.

02 HOW DID THE INCIDENT HAPPEN?

Be honest and detailed

when you explain how you were injured. Even if you were partially at fault, another party or parties may be liable as well.

OCCUR?

An attorney will want to know where the incident occurred, because it will determine the venue of the case.

If the incident happened outside your county or state, you may want to choose an attorney who is local to the area where you were injured.

04 WHAT ARE YOUR INJURIES?

This relates to the potential value of the case, and is best answered after seeing a doctor. If you've been injured, but have not yet seen a doctor, significant doubt could be cast on the seriousness of your injuries.



MEDICAL FACILITIES OR PHYSICIANS HAVE YOU CONSULTED?

If you've already seen a doctor, your attorney will need the names of the facilities and physicians you've visited. It's also important to keep track of all the different types of doctors you've seen, and treatments you've received. Have you seen an orthopedic surgeon or a chiropractor?

Did you go to a walk-in medical clinic or hospital?

Were x-rays taken or did the doctor make a diagnosis based upon just history and examination?

Make a list of all the doctors you've seen for issues related to your injury, even if they didn't take place immediately after the incident.



06 WHAT ARE YOUR PRESENT PHYSICAL COMPLAINTS?



If your injuries have healed with little complication, then your case's value can probably be decided soon. If you are still suffering pain from injuries received a while ago, more research will be needed to determine the ultimate value.

07 ARE THERE ANY WITNESSES?

Don't approach witnesses to the accident yourself -

this task is better left to one of your attorney's staff, or a professional investigator. But if there are any witnesses, it may make it easier to prove liability, and your attorney will want to know about them.

08 DO YOU HAVE INSURANCE?

If you do not have insurance whatsoever, your attorney will need to prove clear liability, and the defendant will need to have insurance or assets.



09 HAVE YOU CONTACTED ANY INSURANCE COMPANIES?

If the incident happened quite some time ago and you haven't contacted your own carrier, an attorney will want to know why.

10 WHERE ARE THE ITEMS THAT CAUSED THE INJURIES?

If an automobile, product, or faulty stair has caused the injuries, pictures should be taken as soon as possible before repair. If pictures have already been taken, they should be brought to the initial interview with your attorney for assessment.

II DID SOMEONE REFER YOU?

If a friend referred you to an attorney they've already used, not only will you be more confident in the abilities of the attorney, but the attorney will also have more confidence in your sincerity.

When asking these questions, an attorney is deciding if they should accept your case. But remember,

this is also your opportunity to interview the attorney.

Ask your own questions about anything that concerns you, and pay attention to how the attorney reacts to your answers and responds to your questions.