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When Do You Need A Personal Injury Lawyer

By Keith George

Personal injury lawyers are lawyers who deal in personal injury cases. Personal injury comes under the ambit of law of torts in the US. The name tort is derived from the French word tort, which means wrong.

Personal injury is a term applied to any damage or harm done to a person's body, reputation, rights or property. Personal injury can be filed under both civil and criminal law suits depending upon the details of the case.

Personal injury includes, dog bites, motor accidents, wrongful death, product liability, medical malpractice, sexual harassment, emotional duress, bodily harm, damage to reputation, nuisance etc. The person suffering the injury may be able to recover damages from the person/company causing the injury. Damages are financial compensation for loss of income, disability, loss of love and affection, emotional distress, pain etc.

The law of torts is divided into 4 categories: intentional torts, negligence, strict liability and nuisance.

Intentional torts are those torts that are committed by the wrong doer purposely. It includes, battery, assault, false imprisonment, defamation, trespassing, invasion of privacy, causing emotional distress, racial or sexual discrimination etc.

Negligence torts are those wrongs, which are done unintentionally. They are the most common of the tort cases in court. They include product liability (products that are dangerous to the users even when used correctly), medical malpractice, misdiagnosis etc.

Strict liability are those wrongs, which are borne out of occupational hazards and use of dangerous products. They need not be due to negligence of the defendant. Occupational hazards like construction workers, factory workers etc where it is the duty of the employer to provide a safe working atmosphere.

Nuisance are those wrongs which interfere with an individuals use of his land or property. For instance noise pollution by a factory or smoking by individuals in public places like offices etc.

When Do You Need A Personal Injury Lawyer

It is prudent to contact a personal injury lawyer in case of injuries to check the merits of the case, to see if a case exists, the amount of damage etc. Contacting an experienced lawyer may work in favor of the plaintiff (the person suffering the injury) as many tort cases are settled out of court, when the defendant (the person causing the injury) feels that the court may award a larger penalty and that the defendant will be involved in a costly litigation and negative publicity.

There are many law firms, which take personal injury cases on contingency basis. Contingency basis means the lawyer gets paid from the claim on winning the case. It is vital to read the contract agreement as the law firm on successfully winning the case may take away a major portion of the claim.

Keith George always writes about valuable news & reviews. A related resource is

<http://lawyers-n-injury.info/>

Further information can be found at

<http://the-new-economy.info/>

Are You Thinking Of Hiring A Personal Injury Lawyer?

By D Ruplinger

If you have been injured and are thinking of hiring a personal injury lawyer there are a few things to keep in mind.

First of all, find a lawyer who specializes in your type of case and in the type of law your case falls under. You want a lawyer who specializes in personal injury law, not one who specializes in other areas of law such as criminal law, wills, estates, or divorce.

Talk to several lawyers before hiring one to handle your case. Most personal injury lawyers offer a free initial consultation to discuss your case. This consultation gives you the opportunity to ask the lawyer questions such as: how much experience he or she has; what the fees are; what he or she feels your chances of having a successful case are; who will be working on your case (it may be an associate rather than the person you have the initial consultation with); and how long he or she feels it will take for a resolution of your case.

The initial consultation is for the benefit of both you and the lawyer. While you are deciding whether or not you want to hire that particular attorney, the attorney is looking at the case and deciding if it is a case he or she wants to take on.

During the consultation ask each lawyer the same questions so you have the information to equitably compare each lawyer and decide who you can work with best. You want to work with someone you are comfortable talking to because you may have to discuss some very personal information with your

When Do You Need A Personal Injury Lawyer

lawyer; so take note of how comfortable or uncomfortable you are when you visit each lawyer.

Take all the information you have about your case with you for each initial consultation including photos but don't take your originals. Take copies. When you do sign a contract with a lawyer you may be asked to provide the originals, but copies should be fine for your initial consultations.

Before signing a contract with a lawyer, make sure you understand the contract. Personal injury lawyers almost always work on a contingency basis. This means the lawyer only gets paid if he or she wins your case. Instead of the fee being hourly, the fee is a certain percentage of your award, typically one-third. You would then receive the other two-thirds of the award. But if any fees such as filing fees, expert witness fees, etc. are paid out of your portion of the award the actual amount you receive could be significantly less than two-thirds. Make sure you understand whose responsibility the extra costs will be.

If an attorney declines to take on your case, don't be offended. Instead ask them for a recommendation of a lawyer they think may be able to help you with your case.

And keep in mind that using a small-claims court can be a viable option to using an attorney in certain personal injury cases, but it is still a good idea to consult with an attorney first to see if that is best course of action for you to take with your particular case.

D Ruplinger is a featured writer for

<http://www.damageattorneys.com>

. For more information about

personal injury lawyers and information on free consultations visit

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