



BISON LAW FIRM

**WHY DO I NEED  
A PERSONAL  
INJURY LAWYER?**



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When you pulled into the parking lot of Yukon Hills Shopping Center, your intention was to go shopping, not get hurt. You never expected that distracted driver to crash into the left side of your vehicle, shattering your knee and breaking your left tibia. The doctor tells you that you will need a plate and screws in that leg to repair the damage, followed by weeks of physiotherapy and a painful recovery.

You're worried, and for good reason. You work as a warehouse shipper, but the pain and limited mobility from the injury prevent you from doing your job. What should you do?

It is at this point that you should call an Oklahoma personal injury attorney. It's clear you've suffered a serious injury, one that will impact your earning capacity and require a long and painful recovery. Next, you should hire an experienced legal advocate with the skills, experience, and resources necessary to fight for the compensation that your case deserves.

## **Your Personal Injury Attorney Will Handle the Insurers**

As soon as you've been in a car accident, you'll start hearing from the insurance company or companies that may need to compensate you. In Oklahoma, depending on your circumstances, they may be:



- Your own insurance company, if you have first-party benefits such as medical payments coverage or uninsured motorist protection
- The at-fault driver's insurance company

This is the stage at which many accident victims unintentionally damage their claim. Although an insurer may be obligated to pay a legitimate claim, they are like any other business in that they want to protect their bottom line. If you make an innocuous comment like "I'm feeling fine," they may downplay the severity of your injuries.

Oklahoma is a modified comparative fault state, meaning that your compensation may be reduced by your degree of fault for your accident. As an example, if your case proceeds to trial and the jury finds that you were 20% responsible for the accident, you will receive a total award of \$40,000 (\$50,000 - \$10,000). As a result, insurance companies often look for evidence of plaintiff wrongdoing: the more you seem to be responsible for your injuries, the less compensation they must pay.

If you hire an Oklahoma car accident lawyer, they will handle all communications with the insurer(s) and review the accident benefits forms you complete to make sure you haven't accidentally harmed your claim.





## **Can I Settle a Personal Injury Claim Without a Lawyer?**

Legally, yes, but without a practical knowledge of the law or familiarity with insurance company tactics, you're not as likely to receive a beneficial result. You may settle for a lot less than your case is really worth or even make decisions that reduce your compensation. For example, some injuries take time for their full impact to be known, and if you settle before you fully understand their extent, you can't go back to the insurer for more money.

This is just one of the many reasons why hiring an experienced attorney for personal injury compensation is so important. According to a comprehensive study by the International Research Council, injury victims who were represented by lawyers received nearly three and a half times more money even after attorneys' fees were paid.

## **Questions to Ask a Personal Injury Attorney**

To ensure you get the best results, you want someone who is familiar with Oklahoma personal injury law and has proven success in helping clients achieve their goals. Here are some questions you should ask during your consultation.





## **Q. Do You Have Testimonials or References from Past Clients?**

The experiences of previous clients can be just as important as proof of past results. When seeking legal representation, it's important to choose a lawyer you feel comfortable working with. A sympathetic but professional lawyer can also make all the difference during such a trying time.

Oklahoma personal injury attorneys often have client testimonials on their websites, but if they don't, don't hesitate to ask for references. If you entrust your case to them, you want to be confident that they will handle it well.

## **Q. How Long Have You Been Practicing Personal Injury Law?**

Ensure that the personal injury lawyer you hire has handled similar cases before. In many respects, this decision is similar to pursuing medical treatment: for example, your broken leg was probably operated on by an orthopedic surgeon, not a general practitioner. While a GP understands the basics of human anatomy, a specialist is in the best position to treat you.





Bison Law Firm focuses exclusively on personal injury cases. We know how to value your claim, negotiate with insurance companies, and present your case to a judge and jury if necessary. All of our decisions are backed by years of experience and success.

## **Q. Have You Handled Personal Injury Cases Like Mine Before?**

The right lawyer will understand how a broken leg can impact your physical, financial, and emotional wellbeing and will use that knowledge to help you obtain fair compensation. If you review examples of similar cases they've handled, you can see whether they have experience handling complex legal issues, as well as what kind of settlements they've achieved for previous clients.

The majority of personal injury cases are settled before trial. If the case goes to court, however, you should ensure that your attorney has adequate trial experience, so inquire about their background in this area.

## **Speak to an Oklahoma Personal Injury Lawyer Now**

If you have been injured by a distracted driver or suffered any other





type of personal injury, contact Bison Law Office. Our clients' rights are our priority, and we won't be intimidated by stubborn insurance companies. We will work to get you the financial recovery you need to compensate you for your losses and support you as you recover. For more information or to schedule a consultation, please contact us online.







## Contact Us

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