

# **How to Successfully Prepare for Personal Injury Cases**

If you're pursuing an injury claim for damages, you want to make sure you are prepared to “prove” all elements of your case. Even the most experienced attorney still needs your help to win.

Only you know certain details about the accident, your injuries and treatment which will help your attorney prepare your case and move it towards a successful settlement and/or trial.

## **Immediately seek medical treatment for your injuries:**

You must seek medical attention for any injuries immediately after your accident. Make sure you tell the medical staff about any unusual sensations, pains or limitations that you felt after your accident. You will need to tell your doctor about all of your symptoms so your injuries can be properly treated and diagnosed.

It's best to have your medical condition accurately and promptly documented in medical reports right after your accident. You should make sure to fill and take any medication prescribed to you and make sure you follow any discharge instructions. If your symptoms get worse, you will need to get follow-up medical care.

## **Keep all the evidence and get it to your lawyer:**

You'll want to keep as much evidence as possible. For example, if you [slipped on fruit](#) at a restaurant, you'll want to freeze and keep that piece of fruit you slipped on. You'll also want to keep the shoes you were wearing when you fell, as well as any ripped or blood-soaked garments.

These items can help properly and graphically show how bad the fall or accident really was. You will also want to hold onto any durable medical supplies you used to treat your injuries. Be sure to take note of any surveillance cameras so your attorney can locate that video, if possible.

## **Be prepared at the initial consultation with your lawyer:**

You'll want to make sure that you are organized when you go see your attorney. Make sure you have all the documents that relate to your case which include medical treatment, accident, and police reports.

You will also need to have the names and contact information for any possible witnesses and defendants. As well as anything said by the witnesses and defendants at the time of the accident. You might also need the makes, models and license plates if it was a [car accident](#).

You will also need the names of all doctors who treated and your hospital discharge paperwork. Make sure you are ready to give a detailed description of the

events that happened before, during, and after your accident. If you're worried you won't be able to remember everything, write it out before your meeting.

Please remember to bring a copy of your own insurance policy for review. You will also want to bring copies of all your health insurance cards.

## **Take pictures:**

It's crucial that you take photos of all visible injuries, shoes, and clothes that you are wearing. You will also want pictures of any medical supplies used on you like wheelchairs, canes, crutches, splints, casts or braces. Photo document as much of the accident as you can and bring these photographs when you meet your attorney.

## **Follow through with medical treatment:**

If you need additional medication, or follow-up appointments like physical therapy, MRIs, or surgery, make sure to do this. It's important to get the follow-up treatment recommended to you not only for your recovery but also for your case. If you fail to show up for a doctor's visit or physical therapy, a note will be made in your file which will negatively impact your claim. If you must miss an appointment for whatever reason, call the office and explain why you must reschedule.

## **Keep your attorneys informed:**

Email is a great tool to keep your lawyer up to date on the status of your care and treatment. You'll want to keep your attorneys updated immediately if your medical treatment or condition changes. These changes might change the strength of your legal claim. Make sure you keep your lawyer up to date on how these injuries have affected your work, lifestyle and mental health.

For example, has your lack of activity because of the accident caused you to gain weight? Or is the financial stress of it all leading to depression and anxiety? Make sure you are completely transparent and honest with your lawyer and doctors about how your accident has affected your life.

Most importantly, do not hesitate to contact your lawyer if you have any questions about the claim process. Injury claims are a legal process that take time, experience and patience to resolve to your satisfaction. Let us help you today with your injury claim. Call Curt at (614) 785-1811 or email him at [Curt@curtsybert.com](mailto:Curt@curtsybert.com).