

9 STEPS IN A PERSONAL INJURY LAWSUIT

Suppose you suffered a whiplash injury after being rear-ended in a car accident and needed to take legal action. Here are the major steps you can expect in a personal injury lawsuit, and why you need an attorney to guide you through the process.

1

SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT IMMEDIATELY

You may have injuries you're not aware of (like a concussion); failing to seek help could affect your ability to collect damages later on.

2

CONTACT A PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER EARLY ON

Discuss your situation with a personal injury lawyer early on, before you even take action. An attorney can review your situation and advise you of your legal rights and options.

3

YOUR LAWYER INVESTIGATES CLAIM AND REVIEWS MEDICAL RECORDS

Your lawyer will examine the facts of your claim closely and begin compiling medical records and other important documents.

4

YOUR LAWYER MAKES A DEMAND AND NEGOTIATES AN INITIAL SETTLEMENT

Your attorney will make a demand with the other side if they think the case can be settled.

5

FILING THE PERSONAL INJURY LAWSUIT

If initial negotiations fail, your lawyer will move forward with filing the necessary court documents to set your lawsuit in motion.

6

THE DISCOVERY PHASE OF A PERSONAL INJURY CASE

During "discovery", each party investigates the other side's claims, sends document requests to each other, and takes depositions of parties and witnesses.

7

ADDITIONAL NEGOTIATION

As the discovery phase ends, the attorneys may attempt to settle. If the dispute can't be settled, the case will move further along into trial.

8

TRIAL PHASE

Each sides' attorneys present their arguments and evidence, as well as opening and closing statements. The lawyer's skill in court is a major factor at this stage.

9

DAMAGES AWARDED

After review, the judge makes a determination and issues a damages award if your case prevails. A skilled attorney can ensure that you receive the full amount of damages.

Can you imagine trying to handle all of these steps on your own without a lawyer, especially if you're recovering from an injury? Contact us at (757) 600-0361 to schedule a free consultation with one of our experienced attorneys.