

# PERSONAL INJURY CONSULTATION CHECKLIST


**This handy checklist will help you prepare for your free personal injury consultation:**

- Documents and other evidence needed to support your claim
- Some questions the attorney will need to ask you
- Interview questions for vetting your matched attorney



## WHAT DOCUMENTS AND OTHER EVIDENCE WILL YOU NEED?

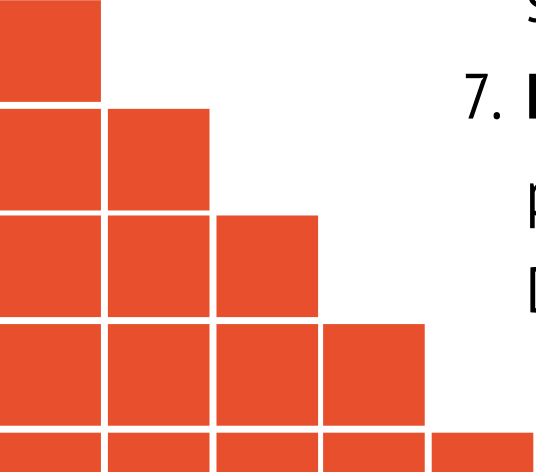
**Bring copies of the following documents and items (where applicable) to your first in-person visit with a personal injury attorney:**

- Police report(s)
  - 911 call recording
  - Medical bills and/or receipts
  - Photos/video taken at the accident scene
  - Injury photos, x-rays, MRIs, CT or other medical imaging scans
  - Medical exam or treatment notes from your doctor
  - Referral recommendation to see a specialist, if needed
  - List of medications your doctor prescribed for your injury, if applicable
  - Your own health insurance card
  - The responsible party's insurance information (homeowners, liability, other)
  - Damaged clothing, jewelry, shoes or other items you wore when the injury happened
  - Contact info for any witnesses who were present
  - Copies of your most recent pay stubs or direct deposit statements (especially if you're hourly and they show lost wages)
  - W2s for the most recent year's tax returns (to estimate future wage losses)
  - Any written communications you've received from the negligent party or their insurer
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# THINGS YOUR MATCHED PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY WILL WANT TO KNOW

This information will help the lawyer determine whether or not you may have a valid personal injury case:

1. **What's the date, time and location where your injury occurred?** If weather played a role in your accident (e.g., you slipped on ice and broke your leg), be ready to describe that as well.
  2. **Was anyone present when your injury happened?** You'll need contact info for any witnesses who saw the accident occur. This also applies to any EMTs or police officers who arrived at the scene to help you.
  3. **What did the doctor say who treated you?** You'll need to provide contact information for all healthcare providers helping you recover from your injury. The lawyer also wants to know if you haven't seen a doctor yet – and if you have, what is your prognosis?
  4. **How has your injury affected your ability to work, socialize and do everyday tasks?** For example: Did you miss work because of your injury? If yes, did it negatively impact your paycheck(s)? Miss any social events or outings you bought tickets for in advance? Etc.
  5. **Have you spoken to an insurance company yet about your injury?** If so, whose was it? What did you say? Was the statement recorded, written, over the phone, etc.?
  6. **Who else have you discussed your injury with, and what did you tell them?** If it's someone willing to testify on your behalf or give a sworn statement, tell the lawyer.
  7. **How are you coping with the physical and emotional impacts of your injury today?** Be very specific about your current pain level, any physical limitations you have now, and how it's affected you emotionally. For example: Are you afraid to take the stairs where you fell? Do you avoid going outside alone in case there's an off-leash dog present?
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# INTERVIEW QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR MATCHED PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY

Not sure how to tell if this person's the right personal injury attorney for you? Here's a few things you can ask that may help you decide:

1. What's the statute of limitations for cases like mine?
2. How much is your typical fee agreement?
3. What should I do if either the other party or their insurance company contacts me directly with a settlement offer?
4. How long do you think it'll take to resolve my claim?
5. Under what circumstances do cases like mine end up going to trial?
6. What formula do you use to calculate damages for similar cases?
7. How many cases like mine do you personally represent each year?
8. Have you ever lost a similar case? If yes, why did it happen?

**Bottom Line:** You want to be confident when choosing attorney representation. Pick someone who's willing to take time and answer all the questions you might have before you sign anything.

