

# **POTENTIAL CLIENT BROCHURE**

## **HOW WE HANDLE YOUR CASE**

We are pleased that you have chosen us to represent your interest in this case. Since you probably do not know what to expect, we would like to acquaint you with the general pattern of how we handle cases of this type.

## **THE FIRST CONFERENCE**

When you are first interviewed, general information regarding the injury is obtained. Materials relating to things you should or should not do will be furnished to you. You will be requested to sign certain authorization forms which will allow us to obtain necessary information.

## **OUR FIRST STEP IN HELPING YOU**

We will begin an investigation and evaluation of your claim that you have retained us as your attorney. Letters will be sent to all physicians and hospitals involved in the case requesting medical information regarding your injuries.

## **WHO TO TALK TO**

Do not talk about your case with anyone except this office, your doctors, and our private investigator. Please do not advise your doctor that you have retained an attorney until you have been advised to do so. Many times our investigators will be called upon to help with your case.

Our private investigator is very qualified to collect information which will be helpful to your case.

### **WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG?**

We cannot determine a value or damages until after the doctors have provided a report stating exactly what your medical condition is and what they expect it to be in the future; in other words, until your condition has stabilized. Many times the doctors will be very slow in making these reports. I may even on occasion ask you to contact your doctor to speed up the report. If I try to settle your claim before your medical condition is stabilized, you may lose money that you might be entitled to for a condition that did not show up until after your case was settled.

### **WE WORK HARD TO GET YOU A GOOD SETTLEMENT**

It is important to know that your case will not be settled until the damages have all been determined and all investigation has been completed. It generally takes several months to gather the necessary information. If a trial becomes necessary, it can take several years to complete a case. One of the most difficult requests we make of you is to have patience. We will work as hard and as fast as possible to settle your case quickly.

### **HOW MUCH MONEY WILL YOU GET?**

It is impossible for us to tell how much money, if any, you will receive in connection with your case. As attorneys, we feel it is our primary duty to obtain an amount of money which will fairly and justly compensate you for your injuries. We will make every effort to do this, whether by settlement or trial, and will advise you of our evaluation in this regard.

### **STARTING A LAWSUIT (ONLY IF NECESSARY)**

If settlement cannot be reached with the insurance company, we will file a lawsuit. As your lawyer, I do not want to file a lawsuit. I want to settle our case by negotiating with the other side. This is much quicker and generally better for you. I will usually get you money faster by negotiating than if a lawsuit has to be filed. I will always try to negotiate with the insurance company or the other side and I can usually come to an agreeable solution that you will feel is satisfactory. However, on occasion, this is not possible and a lawsuit must be filed.

We want to point out that although a lawsuit may have to be filed, settlement is always possible. Negotiations continue and only a small percentage of lawsuits actually go to trial. After the lawsuit is filed, you may have to come into my office and have the other side ask you questions. This is called a deposition. If this needs to be done, rest assured that I will be with you every step of the way to advise and consult with you.