



I HAVE BEEN INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT WHAT DO I DO?

Being involved in accident, whether a road traffic accident, a slip and fall or an accident while at work, is distressing. A claim for personal injuries is not the first thing that comes to mind and trying to think logically in relation to what steps to take can be difficult. This is what you should do: -

1. Get medical attention straight away.

Go to see a doctor, whether your G.P. or, depending on your injury, an Accident & Emergency Department, get medical treatment and follow your medical attendant's advices.

2. Report the accident.

Reporting the accident is important. If in a road traffic accident, report it to An Garda Síochána and your insurance company. If a slip and fall, inform the owner of the property where you fell, e.g. if in a shop, notify the manager of that shop, if in a public place, inform the relevant local authority. If in an accident at work, inform your supervisor or manager. Ensure that the accident details are recorded.

3. Witnesses – Who was there?

Make a note of who was with you when the accident happened. For example, if in a car accident, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the passengers in the vehicle with you as well as the details of the driver of any other vehicles involved. If you were involved in an accident at work, take note of who you were working with at the time who may have witnessed the accident.

4. Seek the advice of a solicitor

If you have suffered an injury because of somebody else's negligence or fault, you may be entitled to compensation. You should seek the advice of a solicitor so that you do not lose your claim because of naming the incorrect legal name of the person at fault for your injury or because of being too late in submitting the claim to the Injuries



Board. You should also seek the advice of a solicitor to ensure that you are getting the maximum value of your claim, including compensation for the injury, your out of pocket expenses such as medical and travel expenses and loss of earnings or loss of employment opportunity because of your injury.

***Before acting or refraining from acting on anything in this guide, legal advice should be sought from a solicitor.**

****In contentious cases, a solicitor may not charge fees or expenses as a portion or percentage of any award of settlement.**