



The Petrylaw Personal Injury Reports

Question: Do I Really Need an Attorney?

Answer: Yes!

Seven Misconceptions Regarding Injury Cases

FIRST MISCONCEPTION: I can settle my case without hiring a lawyer.

It is true that if you have a car accident case and you are happy with the amount of money an insurance company offers for your car — and if you are satisfied with just having your medical bills paid — then you probably do not need to hire a lawyer.

It's important, however, that you understand what you're really entitled to receive if you are injured in a car accident. In most cases, you are entitled to recover not just money for your medical bills and repairs to your property (such as your car), but you are also entitled to receive money for any additional damages you suffer, such as physical pain and suffering, lost wages/income and the like. That is why, at the very least, you should discuss your case with an experienced injury lawyer over the telephone before you accept *any* insurance company's offer.

Our lawyers have several years of experience handling injury cases and dealing with insurance adjusters; many of whom assume everyone is trying to steal money from the insurance companies. Our Lawyers take the hassle out of dealing with insurance companies, and we often provide these services for our clients at no charge. In other words, we usually don't take one penny of the money we collect for damages to your property or car. Our fee is generally limited to one third of what we recover for your physical and psychological injuries and damages and nothing more. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**

SECOND MISCONCEPTION: An attorney requires a down payment to accept my injury claim.

False. We handle all accident cases on a contingency fee basis. This means we get paid out of the money we recover for you. If you collect nothing, you pay no attorney's fee, and we always offer an absolutely free initial consultation. If you hire us, you pay no fee until your case settles and we recover money for you. We will be happy to talk with you about this at our initial meeting. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**

THIRD MISCONCEPTION: I'll have to go to court to get what my case is worth.

False. Most injury cases are settled before the case goes to trial. Often, when the insurance company realizes you and your lawyer are ready and willing to go to trial if necessary, the insurance company starts making reasonable offers for your injury claim. If you don't like the first offer, we make a counteroffer. Negotiations may continue until both sides agree on a certain amount. In most cases, injury claims don't require a court trial. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**

FOURTH MISCONCEPTION: I have to accept what my lawyer tells me.

False. Anytime you feel confused — anytime you don't understand what's going on — you're entitled to and should get a second opinion. In the field of medicine, if your doctor suggests major surgery, you know it's wise to get a second opinion. Likewise, anytime you speak with one lawyer, you're perfectly free to confirm his advice by seeking a second opinion from another lawyer. We will be happy to review your case and provide a second opinion, even if you already have a lawyer. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**

FIFTH MISCONCEPTION: Once I settle my claim, I can get more money in the future if I have additional medical bills.

False. Once your claim is settled, it is over — forever! No more money for bodily injury, pain and suffering, no matter what. The only exception is for actual medical bills in certain cases like car accidents and this, too, is limited and

complicated. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**

SIXTH MISCONCEPTION: I have only one year to file a lawsuit.

False. This can be a difficult question to answer. Under Minnesota law, most personal injuries cases must be started within six years of the date of the accident. In some instances, however, you may have a shorter period of time to start your case. If your claim is against a governmental entity (such as a city, county or state or their employees), you may have an even more limited time frame in which to protect your rights to make a claim. It is important that you know your rights. Otherwise, you may lose your right to bring a claim for your injuries and damages. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to receive help in determining the proper time frames.**

SEVENTH MISCONCEPTION: If I am partly at fault for causing the accident, I am not entitled to any money.

False. Both sides may cause an accident and you may still be entitled to recover money. This is known as contributory negligence. In Minnesota, as long as you can prove that the defendant is 50% or more at fault, you can recover something from the defendant who caused your injuries. **Call our Minneapolis Personal Injury Lawyers now at 612.341.1235 to discuss your case.**