



# 7 TIPS FOR FINDING YOUR PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction .....	3
1. An attorney should be specialized in only a couple areas of law .....	4
2. Ambulance chasers are the red flag of a bad attorney .....	6
3. Filing a personal injury claim will take time and effort .....	7
4. It is unlikely that your case will go to trial .....	9
5. Initial consultations are usually free.....	10
6. Most personal injury attorneys work on a contingency fee basis.....	11
7. Expenses are usually fronted by your attorney .....	13
Conclusion .....	15

# INTRODUCTION

If you are a Seattle or Bellevue resident that has just been in a personal injury accident, there are a few things that you need to know. We find that many people misunderstand or are confused by personal injury laws and have quite a number of misconceptions that get in the way of their ability to successfully file a personal injury claim.

This eBook explains the most important things you need to know about personal injury attorneys, so that you are well equipped to make the best choice.

Dax Jones, our lead attorney, ensures that his services remain up to these standards. His efforts are proven by his track record of satisfied clients, and by his prestigious awards that he's achieved during his career as a personal injury attorney.



# I. They should be specialized in only a couple areas of law

The best attorneys in Seattle, Bellevue, and world-wide are those that have devoted themselves to specific areas of law and practice it regularly.

There is a reason that divorce attorneys don't handle personal injury, and vice versa. These legal matters are extremely complex and take years of experience to master.

It would be like having a brain tumor, but choosing to go see a podiatrist about the issue. If you're paying for an attorney, you want to be sure that your

attorney knows that to be good at their job, they need to dive deeply into that field and learn it well. Experience matters.



## II. Ambulance chasers are the red flag of a bad attorney

Ambulance chasing is illegal in Washington – and with good reason. Good attorneys rely on reputation and wait for clients to seek them for help, while making themselves available.

If you have been in an accident and have received a call, letter, or a mailing from an attorney directly following, take it as a warning to stay away.



## III. Filing a personal injury claim will take time and effort

Personal injury claims require extensive effort in order to create a solid case. This means that a client will need to be involved in the process.

Fortunately, a good personal injury attorney can greatly alleviate that load. They will field phone calls with insurance companies and health care representatives, as well as organize and handle paperwork and other documentation. He or she will take also care of building the case as well as presenting it, if it is necessary to go to trial.

An attorney with experience and knowledge of their field will generally have a fairly accurate estimate on how long the claims process will take. But if they make promises for quick settlements or fast cash, however, take warning — this is almost always untrue, and it is a sign of an unprofessional or inexperienced attorney.



## IV. It is unlikely that your case will go to trial

Most personal injury cases in Seattle and Bellevue settle without ever going to trial. In fact, the majority of personal injury cases that Dax Jones handles do not even need a lawsuit to be settled in court.

A good attorney can usually get all the important information they need to file and settle the case with the insurance company. This usually cuts the time of the case down considerably, and is therefore much less expensive for the client.



## V. Initial consultations are usually free

Most people have the expectation that meeting with an attorney is incredibly expensive and far out of the reach of their pocketbook.

This fear means that many don't even consider reaching out to a personal injury attorney after they are injured. In reality, most good personal injury attorneys offer free initial consultations — we certainly do, here at The Jones Firm.

A good attorney is always willing to meet with possible clients to discuss the basic facts of the case and let you know, in their opinion, whether or not you have a good basis for a claim.



# VI. Most personal injury attorneys work on a contingency fee basis

Understandably, an attorney needs to be paid for his/her time. Many personal injury attorneys work on a 'contingency fee' basis, and at The Jones Firm, we do as well.

This means that when we bring on new clients case, we get no fee for our work until you get paid. Hiring a great attorney can be affordable in this way, as no

payment is due for services until you've received the compensation from the insurance companies.

Before you hire an attorney in Seattle or Bellevue, be sure that you discuss and thoroughly understand how they bill their legal fees.



## VII. Expenses are usually fronted by your attorney

While the fee for your attorney's work will be stated in advance, usually as a percentage of the settlement rather than a fixed amount, that fee only pays for the attorney's time.

If your attorney has to pay someone else for work on your case or to help build your case, he will usually front the bill on your behalf. After you've received the compensation, those expenses will be billed to you separately at the end of the case.

Be sure that you discuss these additional expenses with your attorney before you sign a contract.

# CONCLUSION

If you've been injured in an accident and are searching for a personal injury attorney, don't hesitate to contact The Jones Firm. Our lead attorney, Dax Jones, would be more than willing to have a conversation with you to learn the details of your case and explain your options.

Simply give us a call or fill out one of our contact forms on our website – we look forward to hearing from you.

## THE JONES FIRM

400 108th Ave NE #209  
Bellevue, WA 98004

425.256.2351

[www.bellevuetrialattorney.com](http://www.bellevuetrialattorney.com)