

## Welcome to our Personal Injury Service

*What is Personal Injury?* The Dictionary definition is: “An injury not to property, but to your body, mind or emotions”

Our Personal Injury lawyers have a wealth of experience and have helped over 200,000 Clients to make successful claims – whether the injury was minor or complex or whether they were the driver or passenger.

Having an accident can be both painful and stressful and because we recognise how difficult life can be following the incident we take a caring and sensitive approach with our Clients and make sure the claim process is as straightforward as possible and that all our advice is given to you in plain English. We also have a dedicated team that deals with children and minors.

In all cases our initial advice is completely free and, of course, strictly confidential. If we think you have a good case we will establish whether you already have legal expenses insurance, or if you don't we can offer a variety of insurance funding options that will ensure you are at no risk of legal costs – even if your claim is unsuccessful.

- Road Traffic Accidents
- Uninsured and Untraceable Drivers
- Work Related & Industrial Accidents
- Accidents in Public Places
- Clinical Negligence

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## Road Traffic Accidents

Statistics from The Department of Transport show there were just under 231,000 road casualties reported to the police in 2008 with 28,572 people killed or seriously injured. These high figures make road traffic accidents (RTAs) the most common cause of personal injury and we have specialist teams of dedicated and experienced lawyers who deal with personal injury claims every day in a sensitive and understanding way – helping our clients to secure damages and compensation for a range of injuries and RTA accidents, including:-

- Driver and passenger in motor vehicles
- Motorcyclist
- Pedestrian
- Cyclist
- Claims on behalf of children
- Injuries caused by defective vehicles
- Claims involving uninsured victims and drivers
- Road accidents involving animals
- Fatal Accidents

In addition to your injury claim we can also help with compensation for the following:-

- Vehicle & Property Damage
- Loss of earnings
- Medical Treatment
- Care and assistance from friends and family

We will also arrange, at no cost to you, a hire car if your own car is off the road.

If you've been involved in a RTA either as a driver or a passenger and you believe it was someone else's fault we'll act for you to recover your compensation. So don't let you or your family suffer as a result of someone else's negligence.

## Uninsured and Untraceable Drivers

It's estimated that over 5% of the vehicles currently on UK roads are uninsured - resulting in approximately 1 million people or 1 in every 20 UK drivers not having a valid insurance policy. However, should you be involved in an accident with a motorist who is either uninsured or who left the scene without leaving their details (untraceable) you can still pursue a claim for compensation for your injuries and losses.

We have many years experience of acting for Clients who have been involved in these types of accidents and can act for you in recovering these losses via the Motor Insurer's Bureau (MIB). The MIB is a body set up by the insurance industry and provides cover and compensation if someone has been injured or killed in a motor accident and the wrongdoer is either uninsured or untraceable.

## Work Related & Industrial Accidents

All employers have a duty to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to avoid accidents and injury to you whilst you're working for them. It is also a legal requirement for all employers to have adequate insurance to provide protection when accidents and injuries occur.

We have dealt with thousands of these types of claims and can provide you with excellent advice and legal representation for your work related injury – ensuring you get all the support and help you need to get compensation for your injuries, lost earnings, healthcare costs or practical help and aids needed in your home if you become disabled.

We also have an experienced team who deal with Industrial Disease Claims. These are often known as "Occupational Diseases" and are anything that results from your conditions of employment which impairs your health or capability. The most common are: -

- Asbestos related diseases
- Skin Diseases
- Vibration White Finger
- Respiratory Diseases

## Accidents in Public Places

There is the potential for accidents to happen anywhere and the most common are trips and falls on public pathways, pavements and wet floors. All Councils, shop owners and other owners of property to which the public have access have a legal duty to ensure all reasonable steps are taken to avoid accidents and injury to members of the public. Some injuries can have serious after effects leading to permanent disability and we can help you win compensation. Other accidents that can occur in public places are:-

- Slipping and Tripping i.e. cracked pavements
- Items falling because they're not secured properly i.e. falling masonry and scaffolding
- Faulty lifts, barriers and doors etc.
- Injuries caused at displays, concerts and other public gatherings i.e. fireworks
- Food poisoning
- Burns and scalds caused in a public place

## Clinical Negligence

Sadly many thousands of people each year suffer avoidable injuries or harm as a result of negligence whilst under the care of doctors, surgeons, nurses or other health professionals. Recently the Public Accounts Committee revealed that medical negligence affects 1 in 10 patients staying in UK hospitals. The same report estimated that nearly 1 million people have suffered unnecessarily as a result of medical blunders made by health care professionals. [Click here for our dedicated Clinical Negligence section](#)

## Glossary of Terms

<b>Asbestosis</b>	A condition that causes scarring of the lungs caused by inhaling asbestos fibres. Other asbestos related illnesses are Mesothelioma and Bilateral Diffuse Pleural Thickening & Pleural Plaques
<b>Industrial Disease</b>	An impairment of health, abnormal functioning or disability resulting from employment. Sometimes referred to as "Occupation Disease"
<b>MIB</b>	Abbreviation for the Motor Insurance Bureau. A body set up by the insurance industry by agreement with the Department of Transport. It provides cover and compensation if someone has been injured or killed in a motor accident and the wrongdoer is either uninsured or cannot be identified
<b>Respiratory Disease</b>	Conditions that affect the respiratory system i.e. asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Farmer's Lung etc.
<b>RTA</b>	Abbreviation for Road Traffic Accident
<b>Vibration White Finger</b>	A disorder affecting the blood supply to the fingers and is the most commonly prescribed disease under the Industrial Injuries Disability Benefit Scheme
<b>Whiplash</b>	An injury to the muscles, ligaments, vertebrae or nerves of the neck caused when the head is suddenly thrown forward and then sharply back