

Questions To Ask A Personal Injury Lawyer Before Giving Them Your Case

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It seems as though people experience accidents at the worst possible time; not that there is ever really a good time. Injuries often occur when you aren't the least bit prepared, which means you end up having to make important medical and legal decisions with little notice. The decisions that you make are important because they can have long-term financial implications. Beyond the need for medical attention after an injury, there's also a need for expert legal representation to ensure all of your bases are covered.



Personal Injury Lawyer

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Patrick Mansfield

A personal injury lawyer provides legal services for injuries that are psychological or physical in nature, whether an accident or intentional. If you find yourself in need of legal assistance because of an injury, it's imperative that you ensure due diligence in choosing a personal injury lawyer. Let's review some of the questions that you can ask to identify the right person to represent you.

What is your legal experience and area of expertise?

There are many different areas of law and attorneys with different specialties. While you could certainly work with a

general practice attorney, it's usually best to hire someone that has expertise in the area of personal injuries and the associated laws. Someone that has experience in this area will be familiar with the different nuances of the law and everything that should be taken into consideration when working your case.

How many personal injury cases have you had? What were the outcomes?

As with any other job, you can have experience in an area and not be very good at it, unfortunately. This is why it's important to find out how many cases the lawyer has worked on that were similar to your case. Generally speaking, this is the type of information that's readily available and can be shared with potential clients. If you come across someone that has never worked on a personal injury case, you might want to look elsewhere.

Are you the primary person working on the case?

One of the biggest complaints that people have had when hiring a lawyer is the fact that a paralegal, junior lawyer or another staff member worked on their case instead of the lawyer hired. While it's understandable that some administrative functions of the case might require the assistance of others at the law firm, you should inquire about who will actually manage the case and attend hearings.

What can be done to ensure the best possible outcome?

Once you find and hire the right lawyer, your part is just getting started. It's in your best interest to stay engaged in the process by making yourself available for anything the lawyer needs. For instance, you might be required to see a doctor and provide information about your doctor visits. Whatever the request, you want to do everything within your power to respond promptly.

Approximately how much time will it take to resolve the case?

When you've been injured, you'll probably have medical expenses. Depending on the nature of the injury and whether it prevents you from working, the costs involved can become exorbitant and problematic. You'll probably want to know how fast you'll be compensated for your injuries. It's a good idea to ask the lawyer about the likely time frame of the case. Navigating the court system can be time consuming, and sometimes it takes longer than anticipated. However, you can ask for an estimated time frame based on the lawyer's prior experience.

Do you have any references from past clients?

To avoid any major disappointments concerning the abilities of the lawyer, you should ask for references. In most instances, your lawyer should be able to provide you with references from prior clients concerning their performance. There's also a good chance that you can find this type of information online with a simple Google search.

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