

# Chicago Injury Attorney Details How Lawsuits Force Corporations to Identify Hit-and-Run Drivers

*Scott DeSalvo forces corporate defendants to disclose driver identity only after a lawsuit is filed, and what that means for crash victims.*

CHICAGO, IL, UNITED STATES, July 20, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- When a driver flees the scene of a crash, victims often assume the case is over before it starts. [Chicago personal injury attorney Scott DeSalvo](#) says that assumption is frequently wrong — but that closing the gap can require filing a lawsuit against a corporation that has no interest in helping.

DeSalvo, who has practiced personal injury law in Illinois for more than 25 years, is currently handling a matter in which a vehicle owned by a national rental corporation was involved in a rear-end collision. The occupants of the struck vehicle — a driver and three passengers returning home from a wedding — were injured. The operator of the rental vehicle left the scene.



Attorney Scott DeSalvo at His Desk

The rental company possessed records identifying who had been given the vehicle. Obtaining that information, DeSalvo says, required litigation.

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Politeness doesn't move a corporation. A trial lawyer willing to get a court order does.”

*Scott D. DeSalvo*

“A corporation that rents vehicles knows exactly who it handed the keys to. That information exists in a file somewhere,” said Scott DeSalvo, personal injury attorney and Trial Lawyers College graduate with over 25 years of experience helping Illinois injury victims. “When a company decides it would rather not share that file, the only tool that actually works is a lawsuit. Politeness does not open a

filing cabinet. A court order does."

The dynamic DeSalvo describes is not unique to one company or one case. In crashes involving rental fleets, commercial carriers, and vehicles owned by corporate entities, the injured person typically has no independent way to learn who was driving. Police reports may list a vehicle without a confirmed operator. Insurance carriers may decline to identify their insured. The information sits with the corporate owner, and the corporate owner has no legal obligation to volunteer it to someone who may later sue.

Illinois law provides mechanisms to compel that disclosure — but nearly all of them require a case to be on file. Pre-suit requests carry no enforcement power. Once a complaint is filed, discovery rules obligate parties to produce relevant records, and courts can impose consequences for failing to do so.

That gap between asking and compelling is where DeSalvo says many hit-and-run claims quietly die. A victim or a less aggressive representative sends letters, receives no substantive response, and eventually concludes the driver cannot be identified.

Illinois also imposes deadlines. Under the state's statute of limitations, most personal injury claims must be filed within two years of the injury date. Time spent waiting on a corporation that has no intention of responding is time subtracted from that window.

"There are lawyers who will accept a corporate 'no' as the end of the conversation. I am not one of them," DeSalvo said. "If a company would rather litigate than tell an injured family who hit them, then we litigate. That is the job. Injury victims do not need someone to relay bad news politely — they need someone willing to make the other side answer."



Attorney Scott DeSalvo in Court



2026 Top 10 Personal Injury Lawyer Nationwide For Client Satisfaction

DeSalvo notes that the willingness to file suit changes the posture of a claim well before any courtroom appearance. Corporate defendants that ignore pre-suit correspondence often respond substantively once served, because the obligations and the consequences change.

Beyond his casework, DeSalvo maintains [free educational resources at desalvolaw.com](https://desalvolaw.com) covering how injury claims work in Illinois, including material on evidence preservation, insurance company practices, and claim deadlines. All resources are written by DeSalvo personally and available without registration or email capture — part of a stated commitment to helping injury victims understand their rights whether or not they hire his firm.

Anyone injured by a driver who fled the scene, DeSalvo says, should assume the case is viable until a lawyer with subpoena power has actually looked at it — not before.

The matter described remains in active litigation. No details identifying the parties, the venue, or the specific allegations are disclosed here. Prior results do not guarantee or predict a similar outcome in any future case.

Scott DeSalvo represents injury victims throughout Chicago, Oak Brook, and the surrounding Illinois communities. Consultations are free. More information is available at [desalvolaw.com](https://desalvolaw.com).

## About Scott DeSalvo

Scott DeSalvo is a personal injury attorney with over 25 years of experience representing injury victims throughout the Chicago metropolitan area, including Oak Brook, Cicero, and surrounding



Scott DeSalvo is Available Day Or Night To Help.

A screenshot of the Scott DeSalvo Law Office website. The header includes the firm's name, navigation links (Home, Injuries We Handle, Locations, Resources, Contact, Español), and a phone number (312-500-4500). The main content area features a large orange banner with the text "Did You Get Injured?" and "As Seen On ABC, NBC, Fox News & Over 450 Media Outlets". Below this is a call to action: "Call Any Time: 312-500-4500". The central focus is a "Free AI Case Evaluator" form titled "Do YOU Have A Good Case? What Is Your Injury Case Worth?". The form asks users to answer a few questions for an instant AI-powered preliminary evaluation, which Attorney Scott DeSalvo personally reviews. The form includes input fields for Full Name, Email Address, and Phone Number, and a "Start My Free Case Evaluation" button. A "Live Chat" button is visible on the left side of the form. To the right of the form is a portrait of Scott DeSalvo, a man in a suit and tie. A small disclaimer at the bottom of the form states: "This tool does not create an attorney-client relationship. Results are preliminary estimates only, not legal advice. Attorney DeSalvo personally reviews every evaluation."

Scott DeSalvo's One of a Kind Free AI Injury Case Evaluator

communities. A graduate of the Trial Lawyers College, DeSalvo personally authors all client resources — including detailed guides, calculators, and educational materials available free at [desalvolaw.com](https://desalvolaw.com) — with a commitment to helping injury victims understand their rights whether or not they choose to hire him. He was named Best Personal Injury Lawyer in Oak Brook 2026 by BusinessRate and has been selected by the American Institute of Personal Injury Attorneys as one of Illinois' 10 Best Attorneys for Client Satisfaction 2026.

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