



“Top 10 Things To Do After Suffering An Accident Or Injury In Massachusetts”

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TOP 10 THINGS TO DO AFTER SUFFERING AN ACCIDENT OR INJURY IN MASSACHUSETTS

- **Car Accidents.**
- **Slip and Fall Accidents.**
- **Nursing Home Neglect & Abuse.**
- **Product Liability.**
- **Construction Site Accidents.**
- **Medical Malpractice.**
- **Dog Bites.**

These are just some of the accidents and injuries you can suffer, which require the legal services of an experienced and accomplished Massachusetts injury attorney. Other examples of **personal injury** can include **wrongful death**, **liquor liability**, **bus accidents** and **work-related injuries**.

If you've been injured - or if someone you care about has been injured due to the negligence of an individual or business -- the chances are that you are feeling scared, anxious, worried and overwhelmed - in addition to suffering the pain and discomfort of the physical injuries you've experienced. All of this happening at once can make it difficult to concentrate, but this is precisely the time when you need to remain calm and careful, in order to make the right legal and financial decisions in this situation. Many people act too quickly in these stressful situations without thinking carefully, and in the process compromise their legal rights or their ability to receive financial compensation for their injuries

Call the **Law Offices of William D. Kickham at Ph.: (781) 320-0062 or at Ph.: (617) 285-3600** to talk personally to our lead attorney, William D. Kickham, an experienced Boston, Massachusetts-area Accident & Injury Attorney. Attorney Kickham is available 24/7, so you can call him any time, even nights and weekends. If you prefer, you can fill out an email contact form on Attorney Kickham's website, by visiting <http://www.attorneywdkickham.com>. Attorney Kickham will provide you with a **free, 30-minute consultation** about your accident or injury, explain to you what your legal options are, and provide you with his recommendations.

With over 20 years of experience in handling **serious injury litigation** in Massachusetts, Attorney Kickham knows how to zero in on the most important legal issues your case presents.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE'VE DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING 10 TIPS THAT CAN GIVE YOU – OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT - THE SMARTEST LEGAL OPTIONS POSSIBLE AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. TAKE A LOOK:

- 1) **Get appropriate medical attention:** The most important thing after suffering a serious accident or injury is to attend to your health. There are many types of injuries like whiplash, back injuries, as well as brain and head injuries, where physical symptoms do not become immediately apparent, but instead take time to symptomize. Even if you are not in great pain after an accident, you should still be checked out by a physician.
- 2) **If at all possible, use your smartphone or camera to take pictures of the accident scene.** If you are so badly injured that you cannot take pictures, and a passenger or a witness can, have them do it. Also, have several photos taken of yourself, even if you are bleeding, or on a stretcher. While this may seem extreme at first glance, it is extremely important to secure and preserve photographic evidence of the accident scene. Such photos will become very important later on when the defendant's insurance company claims that you were not seriously injured (and they very likely will).
- 3) **Record/write down the details and facts surrounding the accident:** Do this soon as is possible, before you are medicated or lose your memory of key facts. Make a list of any and all persons that might have been witnesses to the event that caused your injury, but do NOT contact them later yourself. You may say the wrong things and scare them. Leave the talking to your attorney. If you were injured in a **motor vehicle accident**, make sure that you have the name, identifying information and insurance information of the driver who hit you. **If the injury was due to a slip-and-fall**, immediately get photos of the floor surface where you fell and the area around it. This is important to document, as the store will likely deny any defect, later. If possible, do not leave the accident store without first filing an accident report with the store manager, and make sure you leave with your own copy.

Do not wash the clothes you were wearing. Also, do not wear the same shoes again, but store them in a safe place.

- 4) **Do not talk to any insurance companies that contact you - Period:** *Until you speak with an experienced Massachusetts injury lawyer first*, do not say anything to any insurance company representatives or fill out any insurance forms – even if from your own insurance company. When it comes to auto insurance, you do have a statutory obligation to “cooperate with” your own insurer. However, you do not have to talk to them *before* you have consulted with an attorney – so speak to an experienced Massachusetts injury lawyer *first*. *Trust us, we have seen far too many accident victims lose their right to receive compensation for their injuries, by saying the wrong things to an insurance company – even their own.*

- 5) Following treatment for your injury, **take pictures on a daily basis of the injury as it heals**, (such as bruises, contusions, or lacerations). Bruising and swelling gets worse before it gets better. Note the progression of the healing, photographically, as a picture taken ten days or so following an injury, after most of the bruising and swelling has already resolved, is nowhere near as illustrative as photos taken each day. Also, keep a daily written journal or log of your physical limitations and pain issues caused by the injury (ex., “Monday, 1/1/12: Difficulty walking today; a lot of pain.”) These notes will prove very important much later when your attorney formally demands compensation for your injuries. This demand and negotiation process does not typically take place until after you are fully recovered, usually several months after the accident or injury.

- 6) If you are speaking with several attorneys, **make sure to ask them about their independent ranking by a professional rating organization such as www.AVVO.com**. *For example, attorney William D. Kickham has a ranking of 8.1 out of 10, which is rated “Excellent.”* Clients who retain Attorney William D. Kickham, know they will be in good hands. Check out Attorney Kickham’s ratings on AVVO at www.avvo.com.

- 7) **Hire an experienced personal injury attorney who has a reputation for winning cases.** Ask the attorneys whom you speak to, what it is that sets them apart from other injury attorneys, and ask them to **prove their previous case results** to you. Attorney Kickham, for example, prominently displays on the Home Page of our firm’s website some of the superior results that he has obtained for his injury clients in the past. Visit our website at www.kickhamlegal.com, and at the home page, click on the “**Our Successes**” tab. Attorney William D. Kickham has been successfully representing clients suffering from accidents and injuries, for more than 20 years. He also frequently appears on TV, radio, and in newspapers as a trusted legal expert in the field of personal injury law.

- 8) **Tell the whole story to the attorney you hire. The whole story:** Remember, you are protected by attorney-client privilege between you and the attorney that you retain. Whatever you say to Attorney Kickham, for example, will be held in the strictest professional confidence. In addition, make sure you feel comfortable with the lawyer you hire. Personal chemistry cannot be underestimated.

- 9) **Make sure that the attorney whom you hire gives you a written fee agreement specifically spelling out the attorney’s obligations, and your obligations as the client.** Attorney Kickham, for example, will sit down with you and explain the terms of his agreement in full, so that you understand each item, and also so that you understand that you will pay NO LEGAL FEES unless Attorney Kickham obtains financial damages for you. Only when you receive financial compensation for your injury does our firm receive the standard one-third of the gross financial recovery as our legal fee. This fee range is standard practice in the legal profession.

- 10) **Think twice before you consider a large, “big-box” law firm.** Do you really want to be represented by a “Pizza Hut of Personal Injury,” which processes thousands of accident cases? At large, “marquee” firms, you may meet initially with a partner, but the odds are very high that your case will end up with a very junior lawyer. You don’t want an attorney fresh out of law school, or a junior associate in such a firm, representing you – which is what you just might get when you hire a “premier” firm with Oriental carpets.

Attorney Kickham will personally represent you with over 20 years of proven, superior results behind him, and you can rest assured that he will handle all the details of your case, directly. You will not be just another file among hundreds of files. The only number we will treat you like, is Number One.

Westwood and Boston, Massachusetts personal injury lawyer William D. Kickham is an authoritative expert in the field of Massachusetts personal injury law, and is turned to by reporters as a trusted legal analyst by a variety of respected media, including *Court TV* (now *In Session on HLN*), *Fox News TV-25/Boston*, *The Boston Herald*, *WBZ-AM Radio 1030*, *WCVB-TV5/Boston*, *Nightside With Dan Rea*, *Greater Boston With Emily Rooney*, *Money Matters Radio/Boston*, and *The Metro Newspaper/ Boston*.