

What should I expect at my first meeting with my lawyer for my car crash case?

Most people do not know what to expect in their initial meeting with their lawyer.

For a car crash case, here are some tips about what you should expect in your initial meeting.

First, the most basic question the lawyer will ask you “why did you seek my advice today. How can I help you today?” Normally, people come to see their lawyer with a specific issue in mind. So, it helps to have list of questions for your lawyer.

Next, you should expect to give the lawyer some basic information about yourself and the facts of your case. Many lawyers us a specific intake form that you or the lawyer will fill in during the initial meeting.

Next, you should expect to be asked about the basic facts of the case. What happened? Tell me how the crash happened? What did you do? What did you see?

Also, if you have the police report, you should bring it with you. If you don’t have it, try to remember which police department was at the scene so that your lawyer can get the police report directly from the department.

If you know the names of witnesses, then bring their names on a clearly written list. Also, if you know it, add their contact information including their phone numbers. The witness names might be on the police report.

Next, be prepared to list all of the injuries that you have today. And also injures that have healed.

Also, if you have issues that need to be addresses right away be prepared to speak about them. It helps to create a list of questions to “stop the bleeding.”

For example:

- What happens with my wrecked car?
- How to I pay my household bills?
- How do it get medical care?
- What if I can’t work?

In order to evaluate you medical issues, your lawyer will need to see your medical records so you should expect to sign a Medical Authorization to allow your lawyer to request copies of your medical records.

Naturally, in order to request medical records your lawyer will need to know the names and contact information for your doctors. So, be prepared to list your doctors’ names, addresses, and phone numbers. Even better, you can bring a written list that you prepared ahead of time.

You lawyer will also need to evaluate injuries or conditions that existed before the car crash to assess what was caused by the car crash, and what was a pre-existing injury. Therefore, you will need to list all of the prior injuries or conditions, and provide the names of doctors who treated you for those conditions, if any.

If you have photos of your car of the accident scene bring them.

You should also be prepared to discuss, any prior lawsuits you filed in the past, if any.

Also, even though the crash was the other drivers fault we will want to see a copy of your declarations page for you auto policy because we want to be aware of the potential for an underinsured/uninsured motorist claim.

Lastly, be prepared to discuss any government assistance you have had in the past including whether you are on Medicare, or are receiving any benefit from Medicaid or a state agency funded by Medicaid.

In conclusion, don't be nervous. Be prepared to talk a lot, and bring with you the following:

1. Police report.
2. List of doctors.
3. List of doctors for prior conditions.
4. Photos of injury if any.
5. Photos of car if any.
6. Your insurance declarations page.

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