



*Special news and  
information for current  
Davis Law Group  
clients.*

# Client Advisory

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR ALL CURRENT CLIENTS:**

### **Surveillance Warning: Insurance Company Investigators May Be Watching**

#### **Video Surveillance**

Over the years, insurance companies have begun to rely more frequently on surveillance to help them defeat or minimize the settlement value of personal injury claims. **An insurance company has the legal right to shoot video, take audio or take still photographs of an injured person anytime they are in a public setting.** An insurance company **cannot** tap a phone or take video of someone through a window of that person's home.

You probably will not know if you are being watched. But a common scenario is that the private investigator will set up a post outside of your residence in an unmarked car and wait for you to come outside. The investigator will then follow you as you go about your daily routines. He will take video recordings of you getting in and out of your car, filling your car up with gas, loading your car with groceries, putting your child in their car seat, going to restaurants, shopping in stores, etc. It is okay to do those things, but make sure you are not moving or lifting in a manner that would seem inconsistent with your injury.

#### **Online/Social Media Surveillance**

**Insurance companies also have the right to search any public information that you have posted online.**

Insurance companies are using social media to monitor claimants. Using social media sites can cost you money—reduce your settlement amount. Insurance companies monitor Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media sites. What you post online can harm your case. Refrain from posting anything online about your case. Do not post photographs or videos of yourself participating in activities that one would think are impossible for an injured person. **Do not accept friend requests from anyone that you do not know—the friend request might actually be coming from an insurance investigator.**

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## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR ALL CURRENT CLIENTS:**

### **News Coverage Of Your Case**

Your statements to the news media may have an impact on your legal case and/or shape the public's perception of the case. Saying the wrong things to media can damage the case.

If you are contacted by a member of the media (radio, TV, newspaper, blogs, etc.) and asked to comment on your case and/or the circumstances of the accident please **do not answer** any questions. If you are contacted by the media, get the name(s) of the person, the station or publication, and the contact information of the reporter or producer. Let the person know that "this is not a good time" and that you will contact them very shortly. Then **immediately contact our office.**

Mr. Davis will determine if it is the right time to talk to the press, if this media opportunity or outlet is right for your story, and help coach you on what to say and not to say. Whenever possible Mr. Davis or a representative from our office should be with you during a media interview to make sure nothing is said that may negatively impact the case.

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## **IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR CLIENTS CURRENTLY RECEIVING MEDICAL TREATMENT.**

### **Treatment Status**

It is very important that you keep us advised of your medical treatment. Every six weeks or so we will need to know:

- Are you still attending regularly scheduled medical appointments? Have you had any appointments recently?
- Has your medical provider changed your treatment plan? Have you missed any appointments?
- Is your medical provider ordering more tests or specialized treatment? Have you been referred to another doctor?
- Has your condition changed? Are you feeling better? Are you feeling worse?

**In order to keep our office informed of your treatment status please call or email the paralegal that is currently managing your case to give us regular updates.**

### **Following Doctor's Orders**

**Make sure you follow all of your doctor's instructions and recommendations! This cannot be stressed enough.** For example, if your doctor recommends physical therapy, and you fail to follow up, or you skip several appointments, the insurance adjustor and defense attorney will use this against you. The typical argument is that you could not have been that seriously injured, or suffering that much, when you refuse to follow your own doctor's instructions. Skipping or continuing medical appointments at an excessive rate will also make you appear uncooperative or not motivated to get well. All of these facts can seriously and irreparably damage the value of your claim.

Click the link below to read a special report issued to Davis Law Group clients to help them learn to be their own best advocate when receiving medical treatment.

#### **REPORT: The Importance of Medical Evidence in Personal Injury Claims**

[http://www.injurytriallawyer.com/library/The\\_Importance\\_of\\_Medical\\_Evidence\\_In\\_Personal\\_Injury\\_Cases.pdf](http://www.injurytriallawyer.com/library/The_Importance_of_Medical_Evidence_In_Personal_Injury_Cases.pdf)

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## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR ALL CURRENT CLIENTS:**

### **Your Legal Team**

In order to get the best possible result in your case **Davis Law Group** has a team approach to case management. A great baseball team that has a coach, pitcher, catcher, in-fielders, and outfielders and the actual players on the field may change as the game progresses. A great law firm has attorneys, paralegals, legal assistants and support staff and, depending on the stage of your case, the team members that you work with regularly may change. You should know that staff changes that Mr. Davis may make to your personal legal team are designed to provide you with best legal service and to create the best possible outcome for your case.

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## **IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL CURRENT CLIENTS:**

### **Full Disclosure**

It doesn't matter how strong your case is, if you lie or omit information about past injuries, accidents, treatment, arrests or convictions, drug use (legal or illegal), etc. the truth will eventually come out. Remember, the insurance companies have access to vast databases about your private life, including past accidents, legal claims and injuries. The worst thing that can happen is for your lawyer to be the last one to know. **Honesty is always the best policy.** Inform our office about all past injuries, incidents, claims, treatment, etc.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL CURRENT CLIENTS:**

### **You May Get Frustrated With The Lengthy Insurance Claims & Legal Process**

The personal injury legal process can be complicated, confusing and take what seems like a very long time to resolve. It can take months to completely gather all of your medical records. Insurance law as well as local court rules allow insurance companies and governmental entities long amounts of time to respond to certain types of requests. And your legal team needs time to properly work and manage your case.

During the various phases of a personal injury claim it is not unusual for people to think or feel:

- that things are not moving fast enough.
- that they are waiting too long for information to be gathered (such as medical records or medical bills).
- that they are waiting too long to get responses from their attorney/paralegal/legal assistant regarding their case status.
- that they are waiting a long time to find out about what the insurance company or the insurance company's lawyers want to offer to settle the case.
- they are waiting a long time for mandatory court deadlines to come to pass.
- that once the case is settled they are waiting too long for all of the bills and liens to be paid so they can get their money.

As you go through all of these thoughts and feelings you need to remember that your legal team is working hard for you but the insurance companies frequently use delay tactics in order to build your level of frustration so you will "want it to be finished" and will accept an unfairly low offer in your case.

Try not to succumb to these feelings. Stay strong and stick with the process. In the end it will make a huge difference in the value of your claim and the amount of money you receive.

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## **SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL CLIENTS / VICTIMS OF DRUNK DRIVING:**

### ***Walk Like MADD With Davis Law Group***

For the 3rd straight year **Davis Law Group** is proud to be a sponsor of **Mothers Against Drunk Driving's Walk Like MADD** fundraising event in Seattle. Chris Davis has been a long-time supporter of MADD. His wife Mischelle is the MADD volunteer that helped establish **Walk Like MADD** in Washington State by acting as the chairperson for Seattle's first **Walk Like MADD** event in 2011.

**Davis Law Group** invites employees, clients, former clients, friends and other members of the community to join our walk team. Register at: [http://support.madd.org/site/TR/WalkLikeMADD/WalkLikeMADDwlm ?](http://support.madd.org/site/TR/WalkLikeMADD/WalkLikeMADDwlm?)