How to Use This Attorney Consultation Document Checklist

What should you bring to your attorney consultation?

The prospect of meeting with a lawyer may give you some anxiety, but knowing how the meeting will go and being prepared to answer their questions can put your mind at ease. In order to make the meeting go as efficiently as possible, you’ll want to make sure you bring all of the important paperwork and documentation related to your injury and incident.

Go through this checklist before your meeting and gather as much information, evidence and documents as you can. The more prepared and organized you are, the easier it will be for the attorney to review your case and give you an accurate analysis of whether they think they can help.
ATTORNEY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

Find out what documents to bring and what questions to be prepared to answer during your first meeting with a personal injury attorney.

BE PREPARED TO BRING:

Medical expenses

- Doctor bills
- Ambulance bills
- Emergency room/urgent care bills
- Hospital bills
- Physical therapist and/or chiropractor bills
- Documents explaining your diagnosis and treatment
- Hospital admission and release dates
- Prescription bills
- List of prescription medications

Lost work or income

- List of dates missed
- Latest W2, 1099 or any other employment form
- Proof of income (paystubs prior to your accident, income statement from your employer, or a profit/loss statement if self-employed)
- Notes from your doctor about your ability to work

Official report(s)

- Copy of the police/incident report
- Copy of the workplace accident report
  (if you were injured at work)
- Vehicle repair estimates and bills
- Accident reconstruction report
- Private investigation report
- 911 dispatch call recording
- Reports by other law enforcement agencies

Evidence

- Photos and/or videos of the accident
- Photos showing property damage
- Photos detailing road/scene conditions
- Photos and/or videos documenting your injury
- Names and contact info of witnesses
- Names and contact info of all people involved in the accident
- Written notes/journal of your memory of incident
- Your injury diary
- Calendar of events following the accident/injury
- Copies of any written statements
- Clothing worn during the incident
- Any damaged items and belongings

Insurance information

- Copy of your health insurance policy
- Copy of your auto insurance policy, including the “declarations” page or “coverage certificate”
  (if you were injured in an auto accident)
- Copy of your homeowner’s or renter’s insurance policy, including the “declarations” page or “coverage certificate”
- Any correspondence with an insurance company (including dates, who you spoke with and what the conversation was about)
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BE PREPARED TO ANSWER:

What specific injuries are you dealing with and how are you feeling now? How much pain are you experiencing?

Have you spoken to any insurance company, or given a recorded statement about your accident or injury? If so, what did you say?

Who have you talked to about your accident and what did you tell them?

Have you seen a doctor and what is or was the prognosis?

What insurance coverage do you have (auto, medical, property, etc.)?

How has the incident affected you, your family, and everyday tasks? List specifics.

BE PREPARED TO ASK:

In addition to bringing the necessary documents and information to your consultation, you should come prepared with a list of questions to ask during the attorney interview.

Download our Personal Injury Attorney Interview worksheet next to get started.