



LOCKE MEREDITH, SEAN FAGAN & JEFF NICHOLSON



"Service and Protection for You and Your Family"



**THIRD QUARTER 2009
LOCKE MEREDITH,
SEAN FAGAN &
JEFF NICHOLSON**

WON**

\$19.4 MILLION*

BRAIN DAMAGE INJURY

\$16.4 MILLION*

CHEMICAL EXPOSURE INJURY

\$11.2 MILLION

BRAIN DAMAGE INJURY

\$10.5 MILLION

INSURANCE BAD FAITH

\$7.2 MILLION*

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

\$6.9 MILLION*

BRAIN DAMAGE INJURY

\$3.0 MILLION*

CHEMICAL LUNG DAMAGE

\$1.75 MILLION

JONES ACT/SHIP INJURY

\$1.4 MILLION*

BRAIN DAMAGE & DISC INJURY

\$1.4 MILLION

CHEMICAL EXPOSURE INJURY

\$1.32 MILLION

SPINE & DISC INJURY

\$1.25 MILLION

SPINE & DISC INJURY

* Judgment, includes legal interest

** Since each case is unique, similar results cannot be guaranteed

PERSONAL INJURY PRACTICE

- Free consultation with trial attorneys
- No recovery, no fee.
We do not get paid unless you do.
- No out-of-pocket expenses for:
 - medical treatment
 - legal services

**1300 Millerville
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
(225) 272-5555
Toll-Free: (800) 479-9223
FAX: (225) 272-5990**

**Web site:
www.lockemereditth.com**

**OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

Have you been a victim of an auto accident?

The shock of getting into an accident, being injured, or losing a family member in a crash can be traumatic.

Equally nerve-rattling is that a victim may face life-changing injuries, discomfort and pain, police questioning, complex auto insurance forms, and unfeeling adjusters who pressure to settle quickly.

Next come medical treatment and rehabilitation, medical bills, lost wages, and vehicle and property damage.

A victim may even suffer partial disability, permanent impairment, or loss of ability to enjoy a normal life with his or her spouse and family.

What to do if you are in an accident

Use the "Golden Hour" after the accident to gather information to protect your rights:

- Get immediate medical aid for injuries.
- Call an attorney for advice right away.
- Admit no wrongdoing. Sign nothing.
- Also...
 - ◆ Write down names and addresses of witnesses.
 - ◆ Call for police. Ask officers to write an accident report. Request names, badges, and phone numbers.
 - ◆ Try not to move cars until police arrive, unless vehicles impede traffic.
 - ◆ Ask for other drivers' and witnesses' names, addresses, and insurance information.
 - ◆ Write all cars' tag numbers.
 - ◆ Inform your insurance carrier.
 - ◆ Use your cell-phone camera to photograph injuries, damage, skid marks, and other relevant images.



You are not alone

An experienced auto accident lawyer can protect and safeguard your rights to obtain recovery and recompense for serious harm due to other drivers' negligence.

**Look inside for real-life, accident-
victim cases and outcomes.**

**Tune in to our educational show on COX Cable Channel 4 at 5:30 p.m. daily.
Know your rights! Get the help you need and the answers you want.**

CAR ACCIDENT LAWYERS...helping auto accident victims recover physically and financially

We represent and protect you

An experienced auto accident lawyer will serve as the voice of a victim who has been harmed physically and financially in a vehicle accident.

Your attorney will bring knowledge, resources, and, most importantly, passion and heartfelt concern to bear for a client who has been injured by negligent or inattentive wrongdoers to correct the harm they have suffered.

How do we help?

We negotiate terms and seek verdicts or settlements from responsible individuals, their insurers, or third parties for...

- ◆ Compensation for bodily injury
- ◆ Loss of consortium
- ◆ Medical expenses
- ◆ Property damage
- ◆ Future medical expenses
- ◆ Loss of wages
- ◆ Mental anguish
- ◆ Therapy and rehabilitation costs
- ◆ Lost earnings capacity
- ◆ Pain and suffering
- ◆ Wrongful death

Truck crashes into car head-on

An electrician driving a van was struck head-on by a truck whose driver had fallen asleep. The electrician suffered a dislocated hip, a hip-socket fracture, and sciatic-nerve damage. Medical treatment included hip-socket fusion and implantation of a subcutaneous sciatic-nerve stimulator. Unable to work full-time after undergoing six-figure medical treatments, the electrician sued the truck driver and his employer, alleging failure to maintain control of the vehicle. The parties agreed to resolve the case before trial via an online settlement service for \$1.8 million, paid by the employer's insurer.

Bicyclist suffers leg amputation

As a tractor-trailer's driver made a right-hand turn, the rear wheels of his truck came up on the sidewalk and ran over the left hip and leg of a woman bicyclist waiting to cross the street. Surgeons had to amputate her left leg and part of her hip. She incurred significant medical costs and will require millions of dollars in estimated future life-care expenses and lost income. Her attorney sued the driver of the truck and his employer, alleging the employer was liable for the driver's failure to keep the truck on a designated roadway.

The parties settled before trial for \$5.1 million, paid by the employer's insurer.

Driver brain-injured by tractor-trailer

While properly turning left at a highway intersection, an architectural draftsman was broadsided by a tractor-trailer that failed to brake adequately. The victim sustained a traumatic brain injury that required a craniotomy, leaving him with an IQ of 52 and the functionality of a first-grader. He incurred significant medical costs and will require millions of dollars in estimated lost income and future life-care expenses, which include daily therapy and antiseizure medication. The draftsman and his wife sued the truck driver's employer, alleging liability for the driver's negligence. A jury awarded the husband and wife \$11 million. The parties subsequently entered into a postverdict settlement for a confidential amount.

Driver suffers back injury in rear-end collision

When a woman stopped in traffic was struck from behind by another car, she sustained back injuries that required two spinal surgeries. A postal worker, she continues to suffer pain that prevents her from returning to work. She also incurred significant present and future medical expenses and future lost income. Her attorney sued the driver of the other car, alleging failure to use due care. Although a jury awarded her \$1.5 million, she later settled for an undisclosed amount.

Experienced attorneys have helped victims of many kinds of vehicular accidents recover and make their lives whole again.

Negligence causes motorcyclist's death

A student who was riding his motorcycle crashed into a car making a turn at an intersection. He sustained serious injuries and died shortly after the accident. He was survived by his parents and a sister. His father, on behalf of his son's estate, sued the driver of the vehicle, alleging wrongful death due to negligence and failure to yield the right-of-way at a stop sign. Their attorney negotiated a settlement prior to trial for the defendant's policy limit of \$1 million.

Accident-victim cases and outcomes

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WON**

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*Judgment,
includes legal
interest

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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for professional legal advice. For your specific situation, please consult the appropriate legal professional.

Frivolous lawsuits For whom?

Politicians, television commentators, and magazine writers sometimes ask why trial lawyers file “junk” auto accident, medical malpractice, or product liability lawsuits.

Lawsuits are never “frivolous” to people who are seriously injured. Just ask victims of an auto accident how inconsequential their injuries and suffering seem and if their lawyer’s services were frivolous.

Were the extensive medical and rehabilitation bills that someone incurred after slipping and falling on a piece of squashed fruit on the floor of a supermarket produce aisle trivial?

Talk to the mother of a child disabled during childbirth because of a hospital’s negligence about how insignificant her baby’s lifelong care costs and her own emotional pain are.

Injury lawsuits and our strong civil justice system help deserving individuals obtain justice and hold wrongdoers accountable. Civil justice attorneys work to make sure everyone has a fair chance through the legal system—even when it means taking on the most powerful corporations.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE BILL CASSIDY ON LEGAL LINES with LOCKE MEREDITH



I am pleased to have U.S. Representative Bill Cassidy on our show, *Legal Lines*, where we discuss his views on the current health-care debate, the war on terror, and the economy.

Watch **LEGAL LINES**
Cox Channel 4
Weekdays at 5:30 p.m.

AUTO ACCIDENTS Time is of the essence

Anyone who is involved in an automobile accident should obtain medical care right away.

It is also wise to seek an experienced attorney’s advice quickly as well. Here are two good reasons:

1 Serious injuries can take time to develop. Signing a medical release immediately after a potential injury may prevent a victim from obtaining compensation for a medical condition that shows up weeks or months later. An attorney can refer a victim to capable physicians or specialists for diagnosis and care, which cannot always be obtained in an emergency room.

2 When several people—drivers, passengers, and even pedestrians—are involved in a serious auto

accident, injury compensation can reach insurance policy payment limits quickly. In some cases, victims who believed that medical, rehabilitation, and other bills would qualify failed to receive payment because insurance dollars simply ran out.

