

What's New at Turnipseed & Associates

When you think of Turnipseed & Associates, you think "Personal Injury Lawyers".

And, no doubt, if you are a former or current client of ours you most likely came to us to handle some type of Personal Injury claim, be it your work injury, auto accident, slip and fall injury, or an injury caused by a dangerous or defective product. But, if while we were representing you, you or someone you know needed a will or had a social security claim, we referred you to other lawyers. Well, good news! Turnipseed & Associates is proud and excited to announce

that we are now expanding our services to handle matters in several new areas of law.

In addition to continuing to handle all types of Personal Injury claims, we will now be handling the following:

- **Social Security**
- **Uncontested Divorce**
- **Simple Will**
- **Healthcare Power of Attorney**
- **Living Will**
- **Property Damage**
- **Nursing Home Negligence**

In this and future editions of this newsletter, we plan to highlight

and discuss some of the above areas of law. If you have any questions, please call us!

We thank you for continuing to think of us for all of your Personal Injury claim needs, and, if you, or your family, friends or neighbors are in need of any of the above services, please think of us and give us a call.

We look forward to continuing to serve you!

And now for our Spanish speaking clients, hablamos Español tambien!

From our family to yours...





I've been hurt on my job. Do I need a lawyer?

By Ilene Stacey King, Attorney

You've been hurt on your job. Who will pay the medical bills? How will you support your family if you can't work? Do you need a lawyer? Co-workers, friends and family members offer conflicting advice. What should you do? Here are some guidelines to help you decide.

1. **Severity of the Injury** A minor injury with routine medical treatment and little or no lost time usually can be handled without a lawyer. But, for a severe injury, or one that keeps you out of work for a period of time, you are more likely to get the proper medical care and compensation if you are represented by a lawyer.
2. **Employer Cooperation** If your employer seems to be angry at you for getting hurt, refuses to send you to a doctor, or won't report your injury to their insurance carrier, this can cause problems and delays and may even cause your claim to be denied. If you have a non-cooperative employer it is a good idea to consult a lawyer.
3. **Referral to a Specialist** Referral to a specialist, such as an orthopaedic surgeon or neurosurgeon, generally means your injury is severe enough that you would benefit from retaining a lawyer.
4. **Denial of Medical Treatment** If your employer won't send you to the doctor when you get hurt, or the insurance company refuses to authorize treatment, such as a referral to a specialist, diagnostic testing such as an MRI, physical therapy, a pain clinic or a second opinion, you should talk to a lawyer about helping you get the treatment you need.
5. **Refusal to pay weekly benefits** If you are unable to work and are not getting weekly benefits, you should consult a lawyer.

Turnipseed & Associates handles uncontested divorces

By William J. Jones, Attorney at Law

What is an uncontested divorce? An uncontested divorce is one in which both you and your spouse agree on major issues and where your spouse will not be filing papers disagreeing with any issue.

Major issues that you and your spouse must agree on for an uncontested divorce include

property division, alimony, child custody and child support. Most uncontested divorces are filed upon the basis of one year separation, which is the only no fault basis for divorce in South Carolina.

It is important to know that an attorney may only represent one person in a divorce action, and

Important tip: Always get your work status in writing from the doctor and keep a copy for your records!

6. **Getting a fair settlement** Consult a lawyer before you settle your case to learn your options, determine if you are being treated fairly and discuss if you would benefit from representation. If your case does not settle and you have to go to a hearing, you may benefit from having a lawyer represent you who can help you get the evidence you need for the best outcome of your case.
 7. **Loss of Earning Capacity or Permanent and Total Disability** If your work injury leaves you unable to work or earn what you earned before you were injured, the complicated and confusing issues in such cases are best handled by a lawyer. And, if you receive or have applied for other types of disability benefits, such as Social Security Disability, or are a Medicare recipient, before concluding your Workers Compensation claim you should consult an attorney about protecting your other disability benefits.
 8. **Permanent Disability, Restrictions, or Inability to Return to Previous Employment** If you have a permanent
- problem as a result of your injury, permanent restrictions or, if you are unable to return to the type of work you usually do, a lawyer will help you secure fair compensation.
9. **Denied Case** If your claim is denied by your employer or their insurance carrier, you will most likely need a lawyer to help you prove your case. Some denied cases involve legal issues best handled by an attorney.
 10. **Injury caused by a third party or defective machine** If you have been hurt on the job by someone who does not work for your employer you may be able to bring a separate lawsuit in addition to your workers compensation claim. When you may have both a workers compensation claim and a third party claim you should consult an attorney.
 11. **Questions, worries, and concerns** A lawyer can answer your questions, explain your rights, put some of your fears to rest, and help you decide if you would benefit from having representation. When in doubt, call a lawyer!

Get more information at
www.turnipseed.net

cannot give legal advice to both parties. You also need to be aware that divorces are emotional by nature. When you first begin the divorce process you and your spouse may be in agreement but things can happen that cause conflict and cause the divorce to become a contested matter.

If a divorce becomes contested, the terms and costs of your attorney's representation will change and, depending on the circumstances, your attorney may need to withdraw from representation.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions about uncontested divorces.



A Note from Tom Turnipseed



Turnipseed & Associates is pleased to announce the publication of "Legal Briefs", a newsletter to inform our current and former clients of the continuing and expanded legal services we now offer to you and our community .

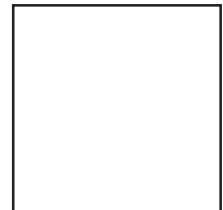
We encourage you to share this information with your family, friends and neighbors who might need and benefit from our legal assistance. We welcome your questions and inquiries about our legal services and encourage you to call us at 803-252-9000 in the Columbia area, or 1-800-833-4878 nationwide, or e-mail through our website at www.turnipseed.net

It has been a pleasure for Turnipseed & Associates to serve you and we look forward to continuing to meet your current and future legal needs.

Sincerely, 

We protect your rights if you have been injured on the job, in an auto collision or by a defective product. We can also assist you with uncontested divorces, simple wills, living wills, social security issues as well as nursing home neglect cases.

Please call if we can help. 803.252.9000 1.800.833.4878



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