

We have specialist solicitors for each area of law in which you might require assistance including:

- Car Accident Injury Claims
- Commercial Litigation
- Criminal Law
- Employment Law (Unfair Dismissal & Underpayment Claims)
- Equal Opportunity / Discrimination Claims
- Estate Disputes & Inheritance Claims
- Family Law
- Migration Law
- Personal Injury / Public Liability Claims
- Probate & Letters of Administration
- Traffic Charges
- Victims of Crime Claims
- Wills / Powers of Attorney & Advance Care Directives
- Workers Compensation



Barristers & Solicitors  
*work for you.*

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[www.websterslawyers.com.au](http://www.websterslawyers.com.au)



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## PUBLIC LIABILITY or PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS



Established in South Australia, our professional, friendly and supportive team is committed to providing you with the highest standards of service.

Our goal is to relieve the stress of your situation by providing sound advice and professional legal assistance.

To this end our Service Charter is based on six fundamental principles:



### Respect

We work for you and acknowledge that as our client you deserve our attention and respect at all times.



### Quality Service

We listen to your needs and ensure that you are fully informed and properly advised at all key stages.



### Professionalism

We have the experience, competence and skill necessary to provide the legal service you need.



### Knowledge

Through continuous and ongoing research and training we are up to date on all aspects of our areas of speciality.



### Honesty & Integrity

At all times we will be open and honest and follow through on our commitments to you.



### Best Outcomes

We work hard to achieve the best outcome for you in the circumstances of your case.

We look after our clients and build a relationship of trust so that they are confident to come back whenever they need a lawyer.

If you've been hurt whether in a public place or on private property and it was someone else's fault you could be entitled to compensation for your injuries and losses sustained as a consequence.

Personal Injury or Public Liability claims involve a large range of incidents including:

- Slips, trips and falls (in retail outlets or private locations)
- Dog attacks and other injuries caused by animals
- Injury caused by defective products
- Recreational and sporting injuries
- Boating accidents
- Food poisoning
- Physical and sexual assaults



Often it can be difficult to identify who caused or contributed to the injury and in some circumstances a person can be held liable for the actions of others if the location of the accident was under their control.

### What can I claim?

Depending upon what occurred and how it has affected you the compensation may include:

- Pain, suffering and loss of enjoyment of life
- Loss of earnings and lost potential to earn including lost superannuation
- Medical costs including the cost of future treatment
- Home help and other care
- Travel costs and out of pocket expenses



The basis for such claims is that the person at fault had an obligation to take steps that would have prevented the injury from occurring, or in other words that they had a 'duty of care'. It has to be shown that the person failed to take adequate care and that you were hurt as a result.

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### What should I do if I think I have a claim?

Of course the most important thing to do is to obtain medical treatment and make sure that you tell your doctor how you were injured.

It is important to obtain as much information as possible to prove the loss you have suffered and for that purpose you should:

- Obtain receipts for all medical expenses and the dates of all medical consultations
- Maintain records of any wages you have lost as a result of your injury
- Keep a record of all travel undertaken for medical or related treatment
- If possible, take photos of your injuries
- Take photos of where you were injured
- If a faulty product was involved keep it and don't return it to the manufacturer

It is also very helpful to maintain a diary recording any changes in your condition and how the injuries have affected your day to day activities.

### When do I need a lawyer?

The law sets time limits within which a claim must be commenced so it is advisable to get legal advice as soon as possible.

It is important to identify the correct party or parties concerned and so early involvement of a lawyer can ensure that the right enquiries are undertaken for that purpose. This will also allow for contact to be initiated with their insurer in order to determine whether they will accept liability promptly as this can save a lot of work and legal costs. Often disputes about what actually happened can be avoided by early investigation and evidence gathering.

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We can arrange for you to be assessed by recognised medical specialists who are familiar with what information is required in relation to your claim and will provide the reports needed to support your case.



It is also important to identify when a personal injury claim might lead to a different sort of case such as a Workers Compensation or Victims of Crime claim because there can be different procedures and time limits involved and having a lawyer at an early stage will ensure that you are properly advised as to what action to take.

### What will it cost?

The cost for your lawyer will depend on the amount of work needed to resolve your claim and every situation is different. In most cases Websters Lawyers can offer a 'no win no fee' arrangement to give you confidence that we will act in your best interests, and that you will not be faced with a large legal bill and no means to pay it. We will keep you advised of the costs along the way and work to get you the best outcome without incurring unnecessary costs.

