

How Long Does It Take to SETTLE AN INJURY CLAIM?

People often ask why personal injury lawsuits take so long. An injury claim that is settled too quickly often results in a meager compensation. If you are willing to wait, further legal procedures can help you recover more. So, how long does it take to settle an injury claim?



File your Injury Claim through a Lawyer

This will help speed things up, especially when dealing with tricky insurers out there. **One of the oldest tactics is delaying the response.** We have seen claims that took a few years to settle due to unresponsive insurance companies. The liable party will take your claim more seriously if you have a lawyer who is willing to take the case to trial.



Average Time of Court Settlement

In general, there is no specific timeframe for injury settlements. There are a lot of factors that surround personal injury lawsuits.

- You may be willing to wait for trial, while the liable party offers to negotiate.
- You may also need more time to find witnesses to prove your claim.
- There are instances where the liable party delays the settlement. Sometimes the insurance company takes too long in its evaluation of the claim. For this, we may hold them accountable for unfair claims practices.

Average time for tort cases to resolve:

DAY 486 486 days (16 months)

Tort cases disposed within 540 days of filing:

Around 69%

You may need to wait for a year or two to recover your injury claim.

Yes, it takes a lot of patience, but the settlement will typically amount to more than the first offer.



Legal Procedures of an Injury Claim

TIMELINE START

Filing the Case

(as soon as possible)

In Arizona, you have two years from the date of the accident to file a claim (statute of limitations). When you are dealing with pain and suffering, you may hardly notice how fast time flies.

- Are you missing days from work due to your injuries?
- Do your medical bills cost thousands of dollars after the accident?

If your answers are Yes, then it is time to hire a lawyer immediately. It is crucial to start the case right away.

Process of Discovery

(6 months to 1 year)

The Discovery Phase is one of the reasons why an injury claim takes too long to settle. This legal process takes months or even longer than a year for complex cases.

- Evidence collection**
Your lawyer will dig deeper into your case. This is where you gather police reports, medical records, and other important documents. Depositions and recording witness statements also happen during discovery.
- Disputes**
Some arguments and collected evidence may be irrelevant to the case. Your lawyer may need to investigate further to strengthen your injury claim. Furthermore, when the liable party denies fault for the accident, it slows down the settlement process.
- Accident reconstruction**
Your lawyer will seek experts to provide a clearer visualization of the accident. These people can help clear details that require technical knowledge.

Settlement Negotiations for your Injury Claim

(may happen any time before the trial)

Our expertise in negotiations often results in the best possible compensation that our clients could get. Insurers know that we are ready to go to trial if necessary. This increases the likelihood of obtaining a good settlement value for your injury claim.

2-4 Months Average injury claim settlement time (after the completion of the victim's medical care.)

*Timeframe may be shortened or lengthened due to many factors.

YEAR 1

Trial

(1 to 2 years)

When both parties do not agree to a settlement, the case goes to trial. This is scheduled after the end of the Discovery Phase. During trial, both parties will present their arguments. A lot of motions will also occur, along with the court hearings.

FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT THE LENGTH OF LITIGATION:

- The type of accident**
Slip and fall cases may settle faster than complex cases due to their simplicity. Liquids or defective flooring, car accidents too may be resolved faster too, with traffic footage and more witnesses on the road. However, complex cases such as construction accidents or assault and battery may take longer to prove.
- Amount of Injury Claim**
Simply stated, lower amounts are quicker to settle, such as claims below \$100,000. Higher claims, especially the ones reaching millions of dollars, are usually disputed. If the injury claim is higher than the amount offered by the liable party's insurer, we will take it all the way to the court.
- Severity of Injury**
Sprains and broken bones have a higher chance of recovery. Hence, medical and rehabilitation costs can be determined in a shorter period of time. Meanwhile, long-lasting injuries such as permanent disabilities and head trauma can be a struggle. Anticipated medical treatments may prolong the case as the liable parties would question the amount of the claim.
- Court Backlog**
Court backlog may also affect your chances of receiving your injury claim. Depending on the jurisdiction, some courts experience a slowdown in proceedings. Hearing schedules may also change unexpectedly when courts have an overload of cases.

All of the abovementioned factors may affect the timeline of your injury claim. This is why you need to hire a reliable accident lawyer. Furthermore, our legal team is skilled in moving cases forward. We already know how to avoid the common delays in court proceedings.

Verdict

(1 to 2 years from the start of the case)

Filing a lawsuit may take longer, but it is worth the wait. With the help of a skilled accident lawyer, you can get what you truly deserve. The settlement awarded by the court will be enough to cover not only your hospital bills. Your lost wages, pain and suffering will be compensated too.

YEAR 2

Thoroughly Reviewed Case = Better and Higher Settlement.



OUR GOAL

to recover maximum compensation for our clients in the shortest time possible.

