



CHOOSING THE RIGHT INJURY LAWYER

WITHOUT GETTING BURNED

BY ALAN MILAVETZ



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INTRODUCTION

I am so happy that you have taken a few moments to download and look through my ebook, and I sincerely hope it provides value for you. If you have taken this step, it means that you have unfortunately been hurt in an accident, or someone close to you has. You are beginning to learn about our legal system in Minnesota, and the confusing rules regarding no-fault coverage, uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage, and our rules for making a claim for lost wages and payment of your medical bills. Hang in there. There is light at the end of the legal tunnel, and I can help you.





First, let me tell you a bit about me, and my law firm.

I was born in St. Paul, the son of a lawyer. My dad, Robert Milavetz, and my mom, Michele, were a young couple, trying their best to keep bread on the table, raise three kids, and get my dad through law school at the same time. My dad started his practice in 1963, and from my earliest days, I knew my dad was a lawyer. He lived the law, particularly in those days. He took every case he could handle and worked tirelessly to help people solve their legal problems. When he took on a case, my dad believed in doing it right. He always put his clients above all else, and was driven to win. He put long hours and true effort into each person's case. My dad believed that his clients needed to be heard, and although he was generally respectful, he never feared a Judge. If he had a point to make, he was going to make that point! I learned the value of "keeping at it until you get it right" from my dad. He never surrendered. I learned to put my client's outcome above all else, and I know that philosophy remains and has grown into our law firm's culture. The attorneys at our firm come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, but they all believe in, and practice by, the same philosophy of putting clients first.

Why should this matter to you? Because this firm culture gives our clients the best chance for a good outcome. Whether your concerns are about getting your medical bills and wage loss paid promptly, or receiving the best overall financial settlement for your pain and suffering, we want to work to get that result for you. At our firm, we want you to know what is going on in your case. We are always available for calls, and

when your lawyer is in court, we have a team of professionals available to help you with your concerns. When you call into our firm, you will speak with a "real" person, rather than a voice mail system. When you call us to set up an appointment, you will speak with a real person.

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We are the only firm in the Twin Cities that Jump Starts your case with our **Triple Point Guarantee**. So here are my secrets.

- 1. When you call us, a helpful person will speak with you, 24-7. If we can help you with your injury case, we will set up a free and confidential consultation.
- 2. That free and confidential consultation will be at your home or your workplace, the hospital or our office. We can also offer digital consultations or a meeting by phone whatever you prefer.
- 3. No fee if no recovery! If you don't win or settle your injury case, you owe us no legal fees. If you aren't happy with us after 30 days, let us know. We will make it right or we will return your file to you. We'll even help you find another attorney if you want.

This is our Triple Point, No Burn Guarantee. No Mumbo Jumbo.

So, You Want to Hire a Lawyer You Can Trust?

In this book, I am going to teach you how to hire a lawyer you can trust without risking your security and well-being by hiring the wrong lawyer. You will discover how to avoid costly mistakes. I've been a Minnesota lawyer for 35 years, and I want to share my knowledge with you.

Finding the best lawyer for you.

Do not hire a brand-new attorney. Some are great, but do you want to entrust your case to a lawyer with little or no experience? Make sure the lawyer you are considering as your lawyer has been in practice for a while. After all, practice makes perfect, or at least it makes for a better likelihood of success.



- Make sure your lawyer or firm has been recognized by his or her peers as someone worthy of your consideration. Although the various lawyer ratings organizations are by no means fool proof, organizations such as Martindale Hubbell, Super Lawyers, BestLawyers and AVVO do provide some additional information to consumers such as peer review, and ethical ratings. Yelp and Google ratings are often based on anonymous reviews, or unknown reviewers. Don't be fooled by "influencers" who review law firms and lawyers.
- Is your lawyer associated with a law firm that has been around for awhile? There is much to be said about the solidity of a law firm. Is their name on their building? How long has the firm been in existence? What ties to the community do the lawyers and the law firm have? Will the firm be in existence for the foreseeable future?
- Don't pick your lawyer based solely on a TV commercial. Find a good lawyer by doing your homework. Look online, call and talk to a few lawyers. A personal referral is sometimes helpful, but you need to make sure that the lawyer your brother-in-law suggests is an injury lawyer, or you may find yourself being referred by that lawyer to someone you know nothing about.
- Do not pick a lawyer based upon who your medical provider refers you to. If your doctor gives you a lawyer's card and tells you that this is the lawyer for you, run!! Do you want a lawyer who is concerned with keeping his referring doctor friend happy, or keeping you happy!

- Make sure your lawyer or firm you hire has mediated some cases, tried some cases and arbitrated some cases. If your case doesn't settle, one of these methods will be necessary to bring your case to a conclusion. While you're at it, make sure your potential lawyer has been to an Appellate Court, or even a higher court. If the answer to these questions is "No", you better keep looking.
- Do not hire a lawyer with no support staff.

 What happens if the lawyer you hire is out of the office for an emergency? You want to be able to reach somebody and have your concerns addressed.
- Do not hire an injury attorney who will not put the terms of your agreement into writing. If you hire an attorney, you must have a written retainer agreement that spells out the fees and costs and terms to end the relationship. If the attorney says you do not need a written agreement, do not hire him or her.

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER

By now you have no doubt decided to consider some extra questions in your lawyer decision process. Here are some questions worth asking, in deciding on an attorney.

- 1. How long will it take to finish my case?
- 2. Will I ever be able to get back to work?
- 3. Who is going to pay my medical bills?
- 4. What can you do for me if I lose my job?
- 5. How can I learn a new skill to provide for my family?
- 6. Do I have to talk to the insurance company?
- 7. How do you help me decide what my case is worth?

BIGGEST LESSONS LEARNED

The Most important lessons I can share are the following:

You absolutely must find the right help. You need to find someone you are comfortable with, you can trust, and you know will be there for you.

You need to know that both of you will take the right steps. Your lawyer will give you advice, and you should follow the advice. What may seem trivial, or unimportant, may have profound consequences for your case. If you pick a good lawyer, he or she will steer you in the right direction. If in doubt, ask your lawyer so the instructions are clear.

You absolutely must discuss when to go to trial, and when to not go to trial. This is a conversation that will happen at some point in your case. You have goals, and your attorney wants to do what is best for you, and what is best for the team of you and your lawyer.

Finally, the **MOST** important thing. You must never fear the insurance company. You've hired an attorney. Use the advice you receive.

In Closing

I didn't just write this ebook for fun, or to test out my computer skills. I know a bit about representing injured people in Minnesota, and want to help people who need my assistance.

I've worked as an attorney for a long time, and have tried to follow the principles I've laid out.

I want to help you find a good attorney. I hope that attorney will be at the Milavetz Firm. Whether your concerns are about getting your medical bills paid, prompt payment of your wage loss check, or receiving maximum cash, fast- the best possible settlement in the shortest time possible, we want to work to get that result for you.

I invite you to call my office for a free injury consultation.

Give us a call, and see what we can do for you with our Triple Point Guarantee.