Texas Statute Of Limitations Hints

(AP) Don't wait until the last possible minute to file a personal injury lawsuit. Waiting too long can mean missing the statute of limitations on filing.

Sept. 25, 2008 - <u>PRLog</u> -- If there's just been an accident, the last thing on anyone's mind may be suing. The focus is usually on medical care, insurance claims, car repairs and just generally wanting to get life back on track.

Don't wait too long to consider a personal injury lawsuit or the ability to be able to file will disappear if it's past the statute of limitations. In Texas the statute of limitations for personal injury cases is 2 years.

If the injuries were serious, it may take two years to heal and miss the filing deadline. Be aware of what legal options are available before they slip away and can't be exercised.

There is one area of law where the statute of limitations is actually 10 years – medical malpractice suits. The reason for the longer deadline is because in medical cases, complications might not show up until later.

A word of advice about accidents. Usually the first thing that happens is the insurance company wants to get things all tied up and settled quickly. Under no circumstances should anyone settle for the first offer. Speak to an attorney familiar with this area of the law to ensure there isn't an unseemly rush to an inadequate settlement.

There may be some bluster from the insurance company about settling quickly before the deadline passes. There's no hurry, despite what they may imply. The case just needs to be started before the statute of limitations expires. The case doesn't have to be completed by then.

There is nothing stopping a person from trying to settle his or her own insurance claim. However, once the claim is settled there is rarely any going back to re-open the deal. This is the major reason for speaking to a lawyer.

Advice on how to proceed with a personal injury claim will get a claimant what they actually deserve as a settlement, not what the insurance company thinks they can get away with.

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