

Medical Care When You Are Hurt At Work

BY OLIVIA DEVONMILLE, ESQUIRE

When you are injured on the job in Florida, you are entitled to medical care for treatment of your injuries, at the expense of your employer and their insurance company. It sounds simple, but there are many statutory rules which govern how and when you receive your much needed medical attention.



It is important to understand that the law gives your employer and their insurance company nearly complete control over who provides your medical care, and what medical services you can receive under your Workers' Compensation claim. The adjuster assigned to your claim will tell you where to go for treatment and which doctor will be authorized. You will not see a specialist until the already authorized urgent care or walk-in clinic doctor makes a referral to a specialist. The Workers' Compensation Law does not allow you to select your specialist, or any of your treating doctors.

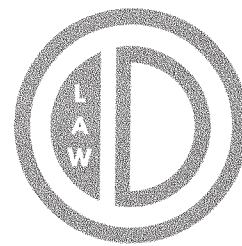
The law does allow the injured worker the opportunity to change doctors one time during the life of the claim. This is commonly referred to as the "one-time change". Here is the catch – the injured worker still doesn't select the new "one-time change" doctor – the insurance adjuster will choose the new doctor. If you see your new doctor, and you find that you prefer your first doctor, the law will not allow you to return to your first doctor. There is only one "one-time change" opportunity per case. If you are thinking about using your "one-time change" in treating doctors, you should consult an attorney who is knowledgeable about the Workers' Compensation law before making this very important decision.

In my next column, I will provide more information about medical care under the Workers' Compensation system. If you have been injured at work and would like a free initial consultation with me, please call my office to schedule an appointment.

Law Office of
**OLIVIA
DEVONMILLE, P.A.**



*Olivia represents workers
who are injured on the job.
She brings her unique
**PERSPECTIVE AND
EXPERIENCE**
as a former Workers' Compensation
Judge in Fort Pierce.*



Law Office of
OLIVIA DEVONMILLE, P.A.

1201 19TH PLACE, SUITE B200
VERO BEACH, FL 32960

(772) 569-7500

DEVONMILLELAW.COM
OLIVIA@DEVONMILLELAW.COM