

Parents' Guide to Day Care Injuries

By: Texas Child Injury Lawyer Mark A. Anderson

Seek prompt medical treatment for your child

This sounds obvious, but prompt medical treatment for your child assures a much better recovery and it helps document the severity of your child's injury. Even if you do not have health insurance, do not let this stand in the way of seeking medical treatment for your injured child.

Determine if other parents have suffered same or similar issues

Many injuries suffered by children at day care centers are those that should have been easily prevented. Oftentimes, other parents have faced the exact same situation. By contacting other parents and sharing information, sometimes you can learn interesting facts that might help substantiate a potential insurance claim.

Report the abuse or neglect to the Texas Department of Family Services

Always report the abuse or neglect to the Department of Family and Protective Services. The hotline is open 24/7



either by toll free number (1-800-252-5400) or through secure internet website: <https://www.txabusehotline.org>.

Photograph your child's injuries

Pictures are the absolute best way to document a serious injury. Over time, memories will fade and it will be difficult to accurately convey what the injury looked like. Pictures will always be a reminder of how bad the injury initially looked. Plus, children have a difficult time conveying the amount of pain they were in and the pictures will help to tell the real story.

Do not give a recorded statement to the day care center's insurance company

The insurance company adjuster will always try to get you to give a recorded statement. Be careful. The adjuster is trained to ask only questions which will benefit the insurance company's position. A recorded statement should only be given after an experienced injury lawyer has reviewed the matter and determined the scope of the statement.

Do not sign a release or other similar document

Under no circumstance should you sign any sort of document limiting or releasing your child's legal rights. Oftentimes a proposal is made by the day care center or its insurance company to pay for certain medical bills if you sign a release. Even though it might be enticing to know that the medical bills will be covered, do not fall for this. A release is FINAL and will not provide any compensation for future medical expenses, pain and suffering, disfigurement or any other damage.

Consider using a different day care center

Some parents find themselves in a predicament as they want to pursue a claim against the day care center but

they also do not want to switch facilities as their child is in a routine and the day care center is usually the closest one to their home or work. However, pursuing a claim will include giving statements about what happened and this will usually include finding fault with the employees. Unless the day care center has made huge efforts to rectify whatever problem led to the injury in the first place, you might feel uncomfortable further entrusting your child to the facility you are blaming.

Seek out a Board Certified Personal Injury Lawyer

Parents of an injured child need to make sure they hire the best attorney for their case. If a lawyer is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law, it means that the attorney has met stringent requirements to qualify for this designation, such as: practicing law for a requisite number of years, having courtroom experience trying cases in front of juries, being evaluated by judges and peers, and passing an extensive examination regarding personal injury case law. Only 2% of the licensed attorneys in Texas are Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law. Since all injury lawyers charge a percentage fee of the recovery, it does not cost any more to hire a Board Certified Lawyer.

About Mark A. Anderson

A father himself, Mark knows the responsibilities of trying to keep children safe. As an injury lawyer, Mark has been protecting the rights of children since 1991. Mark has handled all kinds of cases involving injuries to children, including prosecuting negligence actions against day care facilities. Mark is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law. Mark has offices in Dallas and Fort Worth and can be reached at 1-877-294-1115, or contacted through his website, www.maafirm.com.