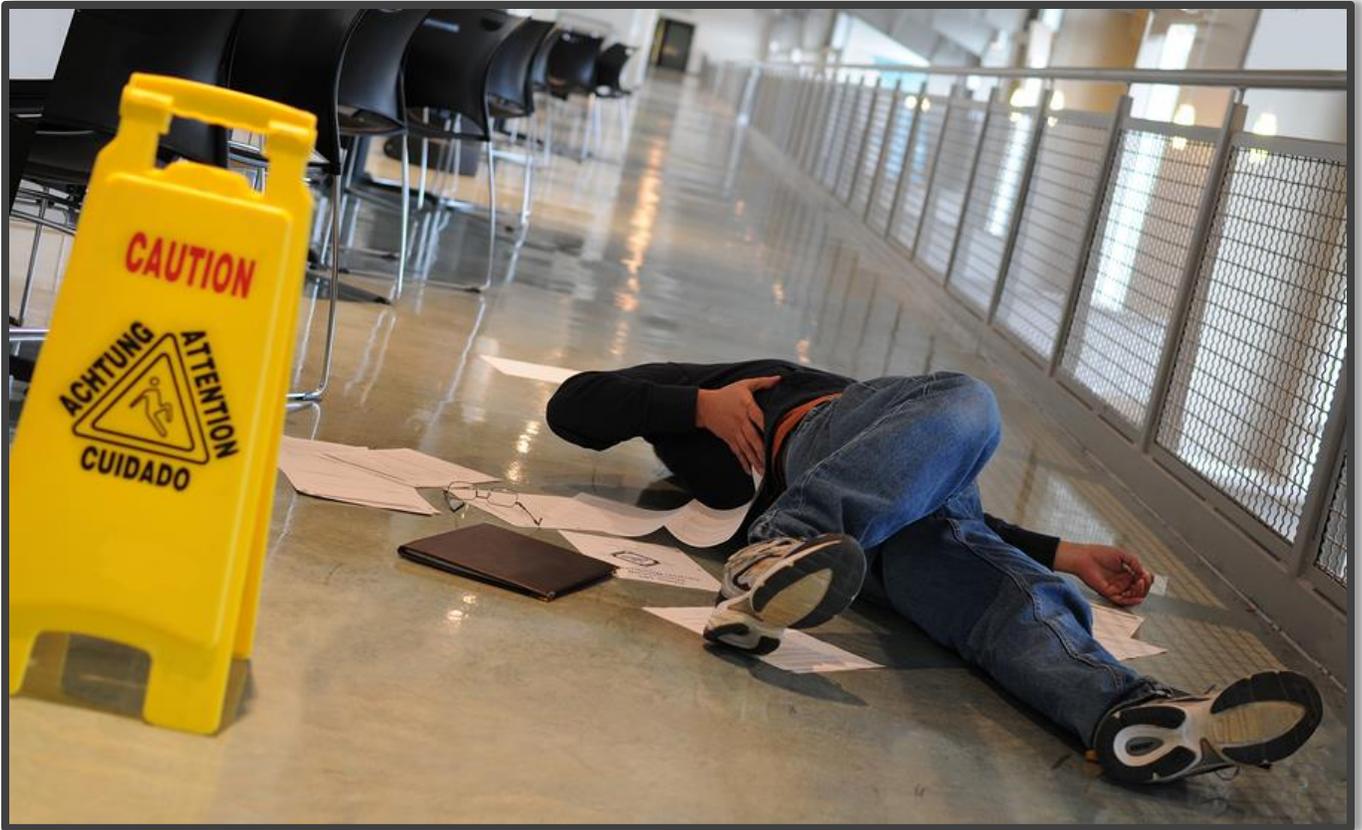


# WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU'RE HURT IN A SLIP AND FALL ACCIDENT IN CALIFORNIA?

*“If you or a family member is injured in a slip and fall accident, there are specific steps you can take to help your attorney present a strong claim for your slip and fall accident damages.”*



**MICHAEL D. WAKS**  
LONG BEACH PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY



When you left your home this morning, you never imagined you would be injured in a slip and fall accident, but you were. Slip and fall accidents can happen anywhere, to anyone, and there is little you can do to prevent it.

Slips happen in the grocery store when spilled liquids are not mopped up. Trips occur in retail stores when merchandise is improperly placed in an aisle. Falls ensue when the owner of a building does not fix a broken step.

The owners and occupiers of buildings, parking lots, stores, restaurants, hotels and homes are required to maintain a level of safety for people who visit their premises. If you are injured on someone else's property because they were negligent in maintaining it, you could be entitled to compensation for medical bills, lost time

from work and more. What you do at the scene of a slip and fall accident can impact your slip and fall accident claim.

## STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU ARE INJURED IN A SLIP AND FALL ACCIDENT

If you or a family member is injured in a slip and fall accident, there are specific steps you can take to help your attorney present a strong claim for your slip and fall accident damages.

- 1. Seek medical attention.** Your health should always be your top priority. If you need immediate medical care, call an ambulance and go to the hospital. If your injuries seem minor, go see your own doctor, especially if you hit your head in the accident. The soreness you experience in the days following the accident may be indicative of a more serious injury.
- 2. Report the accident.** Wherever you fell, you should report the accident to the manager, landlord or owner of the property. An accident report should be created and you should take a copy with you before leaving the scene.
- 3. Take pictures of the accident scene.** Use your cell phone to photograph the exact location of the accident. Include stairs, railings, spills, boxes and anything else that contributed to your fall. Pictures provide strong evidence



about how an accident happened, and need to be taken before the property owner fixes whatever hazardous condition caused your fall. If you are unable to take pictures, ask someone else to take pictures with your phone.

- 4. Get contact information for witnesses.** Witnesses can be very important in proving your slip and fall claim. They provide independent verification of what happened. Write down names and phone numbers of any witnesses

who saw what happened, or saw the condition of the accident scene. This includes employees.

- 5. Obtain the name and contact information for the property owner.** Do not worry if the owner's



information is not available at the scene. Although it is helpful if you can provide your attorney with this information, if it is not available at the time of the accident, your attorney will obtain it during his investigation of the accident.

6. **Keep your shoes and clothing.** Preserve the shoes and clothing you were wearing at the time of the accident. The clothing worn by a slip and fall accident victim is sometimes needed as evidence when a property owner claims the victim's clothing caused the accident. Preserving your clothes and shoes can help refute that claim.



7. **Take photographs of your injuries.** Have a family member or your physician take photographs of the injuries caused by the accident. Continue taking pictures of your injuries throughout your recovery process.
8. **Retain copies of all relevant documents.** Keep copies of all documents related to medical treatment along with evidence of lost wages as proof of your economic damages.
9. **Keep a diary.** Begin a diary tracking your recovery as soon as possible after the accident. Note activities you are having trouble with and things you cannot do because of your injuries. Write down any information or instructions your doctors provide, as well as how you feel each day.
10. **Contact a personal injury attorney.** You should contact a personal injury attorney as soon as possible following your slip and fall accident. Receiving compensation will require proving a dangerous condition existed on the

property, that the property owner had notice of it, and that your injuries were caused by it. Insurance companies rarely acknowledge liability. An attorney will help prove liability and damages.

## **CALL AN EXPERIENCED LONG BEACH SLIP AND FALL ACCIDENT ATTORNEY FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### ***Your Injuries are Personal to Me***

I have based my law practice on the principle of providing each client with personal, compassionate representation. Because your injuries are personal to me, I have even more incentive to fight for your rights. I handle each case personally to ensure you receive the benefits of hiring a skilled personal injury attorney.

Call The Law Office of Michael D. Waks at 888-394-1174 or use the convenient online [contact form](#) to schedule a free consultation. You are under no obligation and you will never pay any money unless you recover damages for your injuries. I offer bilingual services as part of my comprehensive approach to legal representation and I am available 24/7 to talk to you about your case.

## About the Author



### Michael D. Waks

Personal injury victims need someone who understands their pain, who is invested in them and will guide them through the complicated maze of their medical and legal worries. They need an attorney who cares about them and their families.

My name is Michael Waks and I am a personal injury attorney in the Los Angeles Area focused on the needs of people who have suffered because of someone else's actions.

While still attending Southwestern University School of Law, I clerked for a big defense law firm that represented manufacturers of asbestos. I read the files and met the people whose lives were ruined by asbestos and I knew, for the rest of my career, I wanted to help people like them: the victims, not the perpetrators.

I have been doing just that for over 30 years. As soon as I passed the Bar I opened the Law Office of Michael D. Waks in Long Beach and began exclusively representing seriously injured accident victims. I decided to be a sole practitioner so I could handle every case personally. I understand clients are different and that in the wake of an accident their suffering will be unique, ranging from physical and financial to emotional.

I tell my clients from the start, "I want you to only worry about one thing, and that is to do exactly what your doctor tells you in order to get better. Leave the rest to me."

## MICHAEL D. WAKS

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