

TREMONT SHELDON P.C.



FALL 2022



WHY US?

Why do injured people need a lawyer? Despite what we see on TV commercials, insurance companies try to make as much of a profit as possible. Some companies use computer models to value cases, or use inexperienced adjusters with little authority, or use adjusters who just do not believe a person deserves proper compensation.

We have been in this business for over 60 years with 4 very seasoned attorneys. Through those years we have learned how to look at a case from different perspectives to recover maximum value for our clients. Here are some examples of cases that we handled over the last several months where there was little to no money offered by the insurance company. Through skill, patience, and tenacity our attorneys were able to achieve better results than initially thought.

Tremont Sheldon P.C. successfully recovered \$82,000 in a case involving a dog attack where there was no insurance coverage. In this case, the plaintiff, a young girl, was injured because of a dog attack. Attorney Timothy Ramsey filed a prejudgment remedy with the Court against the defendant owner and keeper of the dog, seeking to attach the defendant's property so that it could not be transferred while the lawsuit was pending. Thereafter, the Court granted the attachment and scheduled the matter for trial. After a full trial, the Court entered judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant. At first, it did not appear that the defendant had any assets to attach, such as a house or bank account. However, during the litigation, Tim learned that the defendant was prosecuting, and ultimately settled, a separate personal injury action arising out of a fall down incident. Through this legal mechanism, the plaintiff was able to recover the defendant's lawsuit settlement proceeds.

Attorney Jason Tremont recently handled 2 cases that showed how far off the insurance company adjusters were to the actual value of the cases. This misevaluation may not be typical; however, it exemplifies that you need to look at every detail of a case and not take the first offer from any insurance company.

CASE #1: Adjuster offered \$9,000, stating it was the fair value of the case. The adjuster did not properly understand the plaintiff's injury and the medical treatment. Jason started a lawsuit and began discovery, and the case was settled for \$150,000 within six months.

CASE #2: Adjuster offered just \$2,000. The adjuster said that's the most that he would pay because of the age of the plaintiff (was over 70 years old). Jason started a lawsuit and began discovery, and the matter settled at a mediation for \$135,000.



AREAS OF PRACTICE

All Personal Injury Claims Including: • Car/Motorcycle Accidents • Child Sexual Abuse • Medical Malpractice
• Falls • Dog Bites • Workers' Compensation. For a complete list, please visit our website.

Tel 203.335.5145 • Free Consultations

Ways We Resolve Your Case

Clients often ask us how we resolve accident cases and how long the process takes. As a general rule, if you are injured in an accident in Connecticut, you have to file your case in court within two years. Otherwise, you lose your right to sue the party who was responsible for causing your injuries.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, we were generally able to resolve most cases for our clients, by way of settlement or trial, within one to two years from the time that we filed suit in court. Unfortunately, Covid-19 caused the courts in Connecticut to effectively shut down for a substantial period of time, causing a substantial backlog of cases in our court system. As a result, we have increasingly looked for other ways to resolve cases for our clients.

One alternate method of dispute resolution is called mediation. This is a non-binding process. It is generally conducted by a single mediator who is jointly agreed upon by the parties. The mediator does not judge the case. Rather, the mediator facilitates discussion between the parties about the strengths and weaknesses of their respective positions and attempts to bring the parties together.

A second alternative method is called arbitration. This is typically a binding process. It is generally conducted by a single arbitrator who is jointly selected by the parties. The arbitrator acts like a judge. He or she listens to testimony, reviews documentary evidence such as police reports, medical records and bills, and photographs, makes rulings on evidence, and issues a written decision.

In our experience, mediation or arbitration are both excellent ways to resolve personal injury cases. We have utilized both methods for many of our clients, who have found them to produce desirable outcomes in less time and without the added cost and stress of going to court.



Using a Patient Advocate



The healthcare system can be daunting especially when a family member or friend needs medical help. Because we often help clients during the time of their medical treatment or are reviewing potential medical malpractice claims, we see the value of a patient advocate. People often associate a patient advocate with elderly patients; however, a patient advocate is someone that all patients can benefit from when tackling short- and long-term healthcare issues. A patient advocate can be a family member, friend or hired consultant (several services are available including nurse consultants) to assist and guide the patient through the healthcare system.

Having one person navigate and guide the patient throughout the treatment process not only provides consistency for the patient, but also allows the family and other loved ones to concentrate on caregiving and not paperwork. A patient advocate can help patients communicate with their healthcare providers and may also help patients set up appointments for doctor visits and medical tests and get financial, legal, and social support. They may also work with insurance companies, employers, case managers, lawyers, and others who may influence a patient's healthcare needs.



Please note that a patient advocate is different than a healthcare proxy. A healthcare proxy is a durable power of attorney specifically designed to cover medical treatment. You appoint a person and grant to him or her the authority to make medical decisions for you in the event you are unable to express your preferences about medical treatment.

Tremont Sheldon P.C. Ranked in 2023 "Best Law Firms"



U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers®, for the 13th consecutive year, announce the U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" rankings. Firms included in the 2023 U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" list are recognized for professional excellence with consistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise. Ranked firms, presented in tiers, are listed on a national and/or metropolitan scale. Receiving a tier designation reflects the high level of respect a firm has earned among other leading lawyers and clients in the same communities and the same practice areas for their abilities, their professionalism, and their integrity. Tremont Sheldon P.C. received the following rankings in the 2023 U.S. News – Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms": Regional Tier 1 Stamford Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs Workers' Compensation Law - Claimants



**...HIGHLY RECOMMEND
TREMONT SHELTON...
WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND
COMMUNICATING AND
TAKING CARE OF MY
CASE...**

TREMONT SHELTON P.C.
PERSONAL INJURY TRIAL ATTORNEYS



With the holidays around the corner, don't forget to donate to your local food pantry.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS



- Keep your washer fluid full
- Carry a shovel
- Store an emergency kit
- Keep an ice scraper/brush in the car
- Check your anti-freeze
- Change to winter wiper blades
- Mount winter tires on all four wheels

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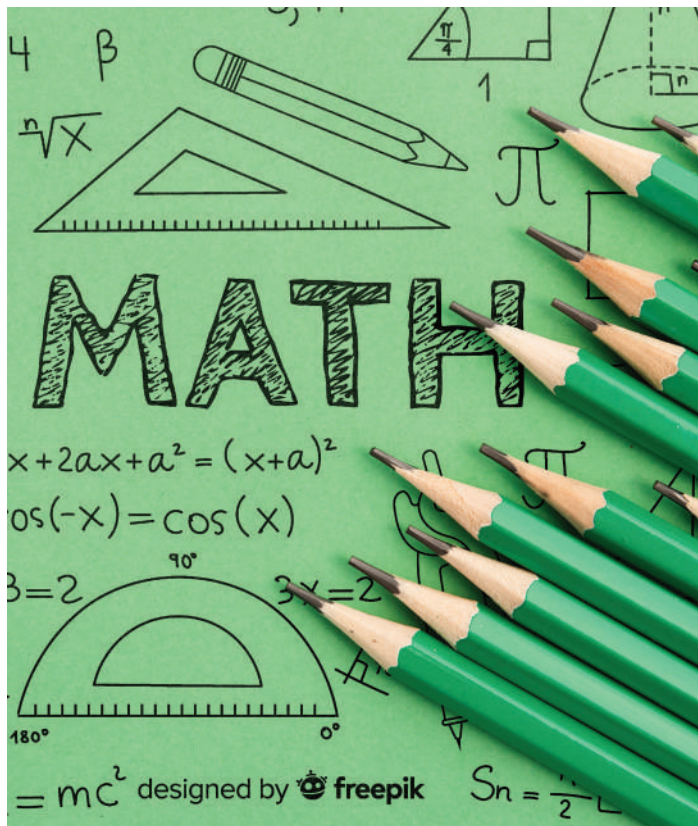
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Tremont Sheldon— Proud to Support Local Schools

This year Tremont Sheldon donated to Columbus Elementary School in Bridgeport supporting a 4th grade math program.

"We have used so many wonderful items received... Thank you all so much for expanding the horizons of my students with these fantastic additional items for my students."

We are proud to support local schools and recognize the opportunities that education provides.