

**UNITE the Union
EAST MIDLANDS
HEALTH & SAFETY
CONFERENCE**

**UNION LEGAL SERVICES AND YOUR
ROLE AS UNION SAFETY
REPRESENTATIVES**



Unite the Union – LEGAL SERVICES

- Employment Law Advice
- Personal Injury cover for member – Work, Road, Holiday accidents.
- Personal Injury cover for any family member not in work
- Free Legal Advice – any issue – free half hour consultation for members
- Free will making service for member (including joint wills)
- Discounted conveyancing
- Criminal law advice for work related criminal offences



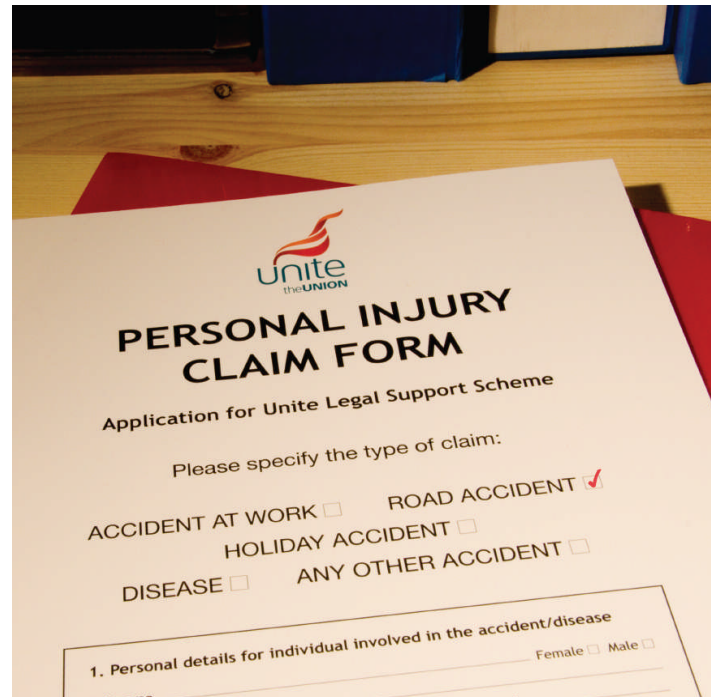
THE BENEFITS OF THE UNITE PERSONAL INJURY SERVICE


- Cover for the member's costs as the case goes along
- Indemnity for the other side's costs
- All damages received are paid to the member with no deduction

Members advised of all of the above at first interview. They are reassured that their claim is fully funded at no cost so long as they have a reasonable prospect of success.



Union Reps: your help is vital.




PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM FORM
Application for Unite Legal Support Scheme

Please specify the type of claim:

ACCIDENT AT WORK ROAD ACCIDENT
HOLIDAY ACCIDENT
DISEASE ANY OTHER ACCIDENT

1. Personal details for individual involved in the accident/disease
Full name _____ Female Male



PERSONAL INJURY CASES

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Limitation period – 3 years from date of accident or if a disease 3 years from when symptoms linked to work
- The accident report form – importance of accuracy and assisting members to complete
- The RIDDOR report to HSE – in excess of 3 days absence



PRACTICAL WAYS YOU CAN ASSIST (DOCUMENTS)

Obtain copies of:

- Accident book entry (ensure details recorded accurately)
- RIDDOR report
- Risk assessments
- Health & Safety meeting minutes
- Records of previous near misses/accidents
- Entries in first aid/surgery book



PRACTICAL WAYS YOU CAN ASSIST (EVIDENCE)

Also let us have if you can:

- Details of witnesses
- If slipping accident measure floor area covered and take photographs (if permitted)
- If accident is due to pot hole measure it and take photographs (if permitted)
- If injury is due to lifting an article have it weighed
- Take photographs (only if permitted)
- Generally assist the member in completing accident report and ensuring accuracy



As the Union Representative, you are in a unique position to assist us in advancing your Member's claim . For example ask yourself:

- Has it happened before?
- Has the hazard been reported before?
- Has someone else had a near miss?
- Have there been complaints about it?
- Who saw what happened?
- What is there in writing?

And during the case:

- Make sure members understand information solicitors have requested
- Accompany members to interviews relating to their case



Accidents on the road, on holiday – Anywhere

Help your member with evidence of earnings

Consider:

- Details of lost overtime earnings
- Lost promotion opportunities
- Lost pension contributions

The union reps knowledge of pay structures can be vital to the members claim. An injury outside of the workplace can have a significant impact on a member's future earnings.



Help your member make their claim

They can do this by:

- completing the application form



- Calling the 24-hour legal helpline 0800 709 007
- Texting the word “LEGAL” & the members “NAME” to 82010
- Visiting www.unitetheunion.com and complete the online form.

There are strict time limits regarding personal injury claims so ensure the member puts their claim in as soon as possible.

Quality assurance

Unite the Union closely monitors the quality of legal service provided by our lawyers

So far in 2009, 1080 of our clients, 97% of survey respondents would recommend Thompsons to their friends and family.

Our personal injury lawyers have won:

- the first cases to establish the right to compensation for asbestos victims and have led the field in asbestos compensation claims ever since
- an award of £3.4 million for the victim of a road traffic accident, which was a groundbreaking personal injury compensation award at that time

Our personal injury lawyers work exclusively

- for victims of injury or injustice, never ever for insurance companies or employers
- for people like you

We have over 85 years experience, specialising in personal injury accident compensation claims.