B & D LAW GROUP APLC

FOR ATTORNEYS OUTSIDE PERSONAL INJURY

Attorney Referral Kit

A two-minute injury case screener, our case criteria, and how co-counsel referrals work in California

Family law, criminal defense, workers' compensation, estate and immigration clients often have an injury claim nobody has spotted. This kit helps you spot it, check the deadline, and hand it off properly.

The two-minute injury screener

Ask these questions whenever a client mentions a crash, a fall, a bite or an injury at work. If you check the first box and any other, it is worth a call.

- [ ] **Was your client physically hurt**, or did a family member die, because of an incident someone else may have caused?
- [ ] **Did it happen within the last two years?** (Most injury lawsuits: 2 years, Code Civ. Proc. § 335.1. Medical malpractice is shorter: see below.)
- [ ] **Was a city, county, state agency, school district or transit vehicle involved?** If yes, a written claim is usually due within **6 months** (Gov. Code § 911.2). Treat this as urgent.
- [ ] **Did they get medical care** (ER, urgent care, doctor, chiropractor, physical therapy)?
- [ ] **Is there insurance on the other side** (auto, homeowner's, business, rideshare)? If the other driver was uninsured, your client's own uninsured motorist coverage may apply.
- [ ] **Were they working at the time?** A workers' compensation claim does not bar a separate claim against a third party who is not the employer (Lab. Code § 3852).
- [ ] **Have they signed anything** from an insurer, or already hired another lawyer on this claim?

DEADLINE TRAPS WORTH KNOWING

- **Minors:** the lawsuit deadline generally pauses until 18, but the 6-month government claim deadline does not (Code Civ. Proc. § 352(b)).
- **Medical malpractice:** suit is due within 3 years of the injury or 1 year after the injury is discovered or reasonably should have been, whichever comes first (Code Civ. Proc. § 340.5).
- **Government claim rejected:** suit is generally due within 6 months of written notice of rejection (Gov. Code § 945.6).
- **Uninsured motorist:** within 2 years of the accident there must be a suit, an agreement, or an arbitration demand sent to the insurer by certified mail (Ins. Code § 11580.2(i)).

Cases we handle

- Car, truck and bus crashes
- Motorcycle and bicycle crashes
- Pedestrian injuries
- Uber and Lyft crashes
- Dog bites
- Premises injuries (unsafe property)
- Construction injuries (third-party claims)
- Wrongful death
- Catastrophic injuries
- Product liability
- Train, boat and aviation accidents
- Medical malpractice and birth injury

We handle cases across California from our Los Angeles office, with additional offices listed on our website. If a matter is not a fit, we will tell you quickly and, where we can, suggest where it might go.

Helpful to send with a referral

- [ ] Client name, phone and preferred language
- [ ] Date and place of the incident, and a two-line summary
- [ ] Any government entity involved
- [ ] Insurance information and claim numbers, if known
- [ ] Police or incident report number

How a co-counsel referral works

01 **You call or email us** at **(888) 977-2238** or **newclient@bdinjury.com** with the details above. We review every referral promptly and tell you whether we can take the case.

02 **We talk to the client** and, if we take the case, sign them to a written contingency agreement.

03 **Fee division is put in writing.** Under Rule 1.5.1, lawyers in different firms may divide a fee only with a written agreement between the lawyers, the client's written consent after full written disclosure of the division, the lawyers involved and the terms, and no increase in the total fee because of the division.

04 **You stay informed.** We send you updates at key stages, with the client's consent.

> **WHAT YOU GET EITHER WAY**
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> A fast answer, a client who is treated well, and a referral relationship handled by the rules. If you would rather refer without any fee division, that is always fine too.

> **QUESTIONS? TALK TO US**
>
> **(888) 977-2238** | Los Angeles office (310) 424-5252 | bdinjurylawgroup.com
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> B&D Law Group, APLC. Bona fide office: 10700 Santa Monica Blvd, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA. Attorney advertising. Informational only, not legal advice. Reading this does not create an attorney-client relationship.

Sources: Code Civ. Proc. §§ 335.1, 340.5, 352; Gov. Code §§ 911.2, 945.6; Ins. Code § 11580.2; Lab. Code § 3852; Cal. Rules of Prof. Conduct, rule 1.5.1. Checked against primary sources September 2026.