

## **WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE INJURED AND IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT:**

### **1. IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT, HERE ARE SOME POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND:**

- a. **Insurance companies are not your friend, including your own insurance company.** Be very careful in giving a statement to an insurance company. Insurance companies train people to ask questions to trap you into giving information that you do not need to provide. Do not be at their mercy.
- b. Do not discuss your case with anyone other than the investigating officer or any of your treating medical doctors before you contact a lawyer.
- c. Photographs are important. Be sure to take photographs of the vehicles involved and the accident scene.
- d. Seek medical treatment as soon as possible for your injuries.
- e. Give an accurate medical history of the collision to your medical doctor and what happened to your body at impact.
- f. Be sure to get the name, address and telephone number of any witnesses to the automobile accident.

### **2. IN A SLIP AND FALL AT A BUSINESS, SOME IMPORTANT POINTS:**

- a. Were you in a store aisle that was cluttered and caused you to fall?
- b. Did you trip and fall over an object on the floor of a business such as broken tile or a liquid substance?
- c. Businesses will often want you to sign an incident report that they prepared. Do not do that! They are only looking out for themselves.
- d. Take photographs of the location where you fell.
- e. Under Alabama law, a business owner is required to keep their premises in a safe condition, or, if the premises is in a dangerous condition, businesses must warn the public. For example, they must use a wet floor sign, cone or rope the dangerous location off so that their customers do not enter the dangerous area.
- f. It is often a mistake to try to settle a case on your own.

**Frank S. Buck, P.C., Attorneys at Law** have been offering professional legal services and serving Alabama citizens for over 38 years. We have experienced trial attorneys who have over 89 years of combined trial experience. You can reach us 24 hours a day at (205) 933-7533. Please call us for a free consultation.