

Proving Negligence in a Personal Injury Case

When a person is injured because of someone else's carelessness, he or she may have legal grounds to pursue a personal injury lawsuit against the individual responsible for causing the injury. However, it is not enough to simply show that you were injured in order to successfully argue your personal injury case. In order to recover damages to compensate for injury-related costs, the injured party must be able to show that the other person behaved in a negligent manner.

What is Negligence?

Negligence occurs when a person fails to act with the care that would be expected from a reasonable person to prevent another individual from being harmed. In any personal injury case, there are four basic points that must be proven in order to successfully show that the defendant in the case was negligent. These four key points are:

- **Duty of Care:** The defendant must have had a duty to the plaintiff to take reasonable care to prevent causing injury.
- **Breach of Duty:** The defendant must have breached the duty of care by not taking reasonable care to prevent the injury.
- **Causation:** The defendant's breach of duty caused harm to the plaintiff.
- **Harm:** The harm caused to the plaintiff included physical or economic damage (or both) for which the plaintiff can be financially compensated.

Establishing these four elements in a negligence case is crucial to receiving a favorable ruling for injury compensation. If your legal team is able to prove that the defendant was negligent, you may be able to receive damages to cover your injury-related costs, such as emergency treatment, surgery expenses, and lost income from time off of work.

For More Information

To learn more about proving negligence in your case and how an experienced [St. Louis personal injury lawyer](#) can assist you, visit the website of the **Finney Law Office** today.