

10 Steps to Take After a Wrongful Death

1

Allow Yourself Time to Grieve

Losing a loved one is overwhelming, so give yourself time to process emotions. Seek support from friends, family, or a counselor to help you cope.

2

Obtain a Death Certificate

This document is essential for legal and financial matters. Request multiple copies from the local registrar or health department to avoid delays.

3

Engage a Wrongful Death Lawyer

An experienced attorney will guide you through the legal process and protect your rights. Most offer free consultations to review your case.

4

Gather Essential Information

Collect medical records, accident reports, and insurance correspondence. Organize these documents to help your lawyer build a strong case.

5

Be Aware of Statute of Limitations

Wrongful death claims must be filed within a set time frame. In the state of Michigan, this is 3 years from the date of loss. Missing this deadline can prevent you from seeking justice.

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6

Identify Responsible Parties

Liability may involve individuals, companies, or multiple entities. Your lawyer will investigate thoroughly to determine who should be held accountable

7

Calculate Damages

Damages include both financial losses and emotional suffering. Your attorney will help ensure you seek fair compensation for your loss.

8

Initiate Legal Proceedings

Filing a lawsuit formally begins the legal process. Your lawyer will prepare and submit the complaint to the court on your behalf and the process will begin.

9

Negotiate Settlements

Many cases settle out of court, saving time and stress. Your lawyer will work to secure a fair agreement or proceed to trial if necessary.

10

Focus on Healing and Moving Forward

Legal matters take time, so prioritize your emotional well-being. Lean on support networks and consider counseling as you continue to heal.