

BEYOND THE COURTROOM

For personal injury attorney **Morgan Whitlock**, helping clients involves more than fighting for fair compensation.

Personal injury claims often run far deeper than a desire for monetary compensation. Maryland-based personal injury attorney Morgan Whitlock helps to ensure her clients receive the care they need when a life-changing injury has left them immobilized and other systems have let them down.

“If the insurance companies did what they promise, I wouldn’t be in business,” Whitlock says, referencing the times insurance companies have refused to pay and medical providers have refused to treat her clients—despite life-altering injuries. “Regardless of the profitability of the case, people deserve to have an attorney who represents them.”

FIGHTING FOR CARE

Whitlock recalls a client who suffered a serious cervical fracture following a car accident. He underwent an emergent anterior cervical fusion to save his life; however, he was discharged and instructed to undergo a second surgery. Without health insurance or the ability to pay, it was impossible for the client to obtain medical care.

Whitlock stepped in and fought to get her client the medical treatment he desperately needed. “I called at least 10 neurosurgeons before finding someone who would operate on him,” she recalls. “I will never forget the doctor who agreed to see my client and ultimately performed surgery. Persistence like that is an important part of being a personal injury attorney.”

It’s an issue Whitlock sees time and again. She says clients are unable to access medical care following an accident for a number of reasons: Sometimes doctors simply don’t want to be involved in accident cases because they may have to testify in court regarding the treatment provided. Others don’t want to wait until a case is settled or compensation is awarded from the court before receiving payment.

Issues also arise when auto insurance companies deny liability. One client was unable to get medical treatment for eight months because she was left without a vehicle and struggling financially. An insurance company used that gap in treatment as an excuse to cap their offer at \$9,000. Whitlock took the case to trial, where the judge awarded her client \$11,000 to cover medical expenses and an additional \$19,000 for the pain and suffering she had endured.



Morgan Whitlock

LEGAL ACCESS FOR ALL

Whitlock, who practices in Maryland and Virginia, is no stranger to representing individuals neglected by other systems or ignored based on socioeconomic status. Her legal studies included 800 hours of pro bono casework, where she represented clients living below the poverty line. She also served as a legal volunteer in New Orleans during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Whitlock Law LLC, which she founded in 2017, mainly focuses on automobile, tractor-trailer, and motorcycle accidents—but Whitlock also litigates premises liability, animal bite, and police brutality cases.

The belief that everyone should have access to legal representation is something that still motivates her. “Accidents already have an impact on people’s ability to carry on with life as normal, and this should not be made worse by the inability to obtain competent representation or medical care,” she says.

