

LOST WAGES & SERVICES

LANDER LAW PLLC

Lost wages and additional services or expenses can amount to a significant portion of your case. Documentation is the key to successful recovery in these areas. Lost wages and additional services or expenses are included in the primary Bodily Injury claim, which is often resolved after our clients have completed medical treatment.

LOST WAGES or COMPENSATION?

Whether you work a full-time job and receive consistent paychecks or work part-time, gig, or seasonal employment and receive variable wages, there are many ways we can document your income to support a lost wages claim. Taking Paid Time Off (PTO) or sick days is the easiest way to support a lost wages claim. It's important to contemporaneously save your paystubs. If paystubs are not readily accessible or available, we can generate letters for employers to sign or declarations for our clients to sign to support periodic lost wages. Monthly bank statements, tax returns, returned checks, or invoices can also support a lost wages claim.

What We Need:

- Documentation to establish compensation PRIOR to the date of the injury: 2 – 3 months of paystubs, invoices, or bank statements showing deposits.
- Documentation to establish compensation DURING the loss: decrease in hours/shifts worked and corresponding income lost as a result, typically paystubs, invoices, or bank statements showing a decrease in PTO hours or deposits. This can also be supported by a medical provider's note or note from your employer showing workplace accommodations.
- Documentation to establish RESUMED compensation: return to pre-injury employment obligations, shown through paystubs, invoices, or bank statements showing an increase in hours works or deposits.

LOST SERVICES or EXPENSES?

Did you hire a part-time landscaping company to assist with lawn or yard maintenance? Did your spouse or significant other reduce their work hours to accommodate greater childcare, cooking, or home maintenance responsibilities? The law allows you to recover the reasonable value of necessary domestic services or nonmedical expenses. The best way to document these services or expenses is receipts, invoices, or cashed checks.

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MEDICALLY NECESSARY AND RELATED

Any loss of income, services, or expenses must be medically related and substantiated by your medical provider. Make sure to tell your medical provider if your injuries or symptoms are impacting your ability to perform the duties of your employment or domestic services or require the need to incur nonmedical expenses. Always ask your treatment providers to note in your medical record that your activities of daily life have been impacted. It's better to ask for a medical note that excuses you from work or certain physical activities and not need it, then need a note and not have one.

Be sure to keep all receipts, invoices, or Venmo transaction histories to document your lost wages, services, and expenses.

Make sure to also include prescription documents showing the full cost of any prescriptions prior to your health insurance reduction, even if you only paid a small co-pay. If you purchased any over-the-counter medications or other items to assist in your treatment, be sure to send those to our office for evaluation.

There are many creative ways to establish alternative documentation to support lost wages, services, or expenses claims. Make sure to discuss with our team members the options so that we can efficiently and effectively manage and resolve your case.