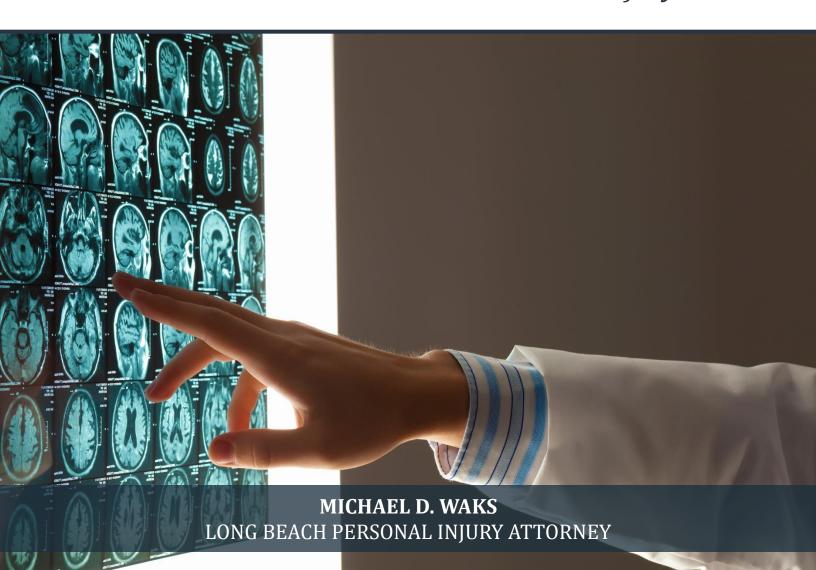
# WHAT IS A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY?

"Victims must know the full extent of their current and future economic and non-financial losses before settling their TBI claim. To understand the extent of their harm, victims need to know what a traumatic brain injury entails."





One of the most serious injuries an accident victim can sustain is a traumatic brain injury, or TBI.

Traumatic brain injuries can be fatal or they can seriously impact the rest of a victim's life. TBI victims often require long costly medical care.

If TBI occurs as the result of someone else's actions, those responsible should provide full compensation. However, victims must know the full extent of their current and future economic and non-financial losses before settling their TBI claim. To understand the extent of their harm, victims need to know what a traumatic brain injury entails.

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SUFFER A BRAIN INJURY?

According to the <u>Mayo Clinic</u>, "Traumatic brain injury occurs when an external mechanical force causes brain dysfunction."

A concussion is considered the least severe form of TBI, but even a concussion can have a profound impact on the brain, with symptoms lasting for weeks or months. More serious TBIs can leave victims in a coma, cause significant impairment to cognitive function, leave victims permanently brain damaged, or result in death.



Traumatic brain injury occurs when the head is struck or when there is a violent jolt to the body. A victim who is not hit in the head by an external object can still sustain a traumatic brain injury if the brain strikes the hard skull.

When a traumatic brain injury is mild, the blow to the head or the external force can cause brain cells to become temporarily dysfunctional. A more serious head injury can result in brain bruising, torn tissue, and bleeding in the brain. Actual physical damage to

the brain can cause death or serious long-term complications.

# HOW DOES TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY HAPPEN?

The <u>Mayo Clinic</u> lists top causes of traumatic brain injury as including slip and falls; motor vehicle collisions; violence; sports injuries; and combat injuries.

In many cases where traumatic brain injury occurs, an individual or company is responsible for the injuries. Individuals, businesses, and agencies of the government can be held legally liable for any breach of legal obligation, or failure to fulfill legal duty, which is a direct cause of brain injury.

For example, a driver who causes a motor vehicle collision can be held responsible for brain injures sustained by car accident victims. Property owners may be held

responsible for uncorrected dangerous conditions they knew of, or should have been aware of, on their property, which resulted in a fall leading to brain injury. Property owners may also be held responsible for acts of violence on their property causing brain injury, if the owner was negligent in providing security. Even in the case of sports injuries, coaches, extracurricular activity organizers, schools, and equipment manufacturers may sometimes be held responsible for a traumatic brain injury.

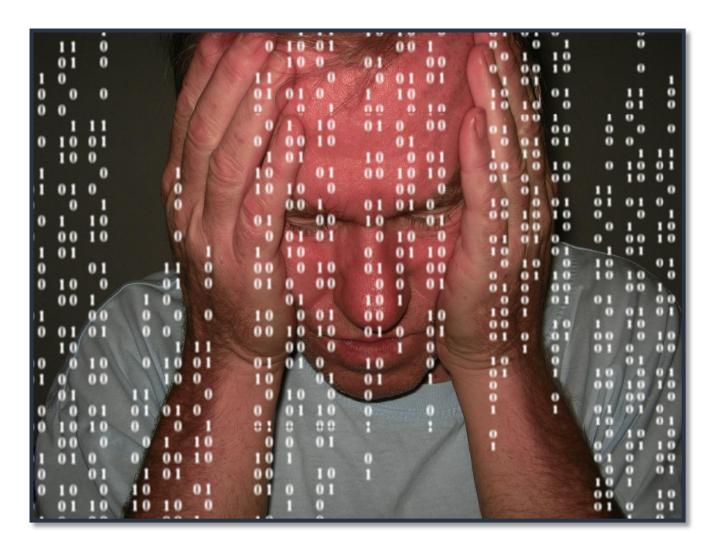
### SYMPTOMS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Traumatic brain injuries may cause victims to exhibit both physical and psychological symptoms, depending upon injury severity. Physical symptoms, including brief or ongoing loss of consciousness; nausea or vomiting; confusion and disorientation; drowsiness; headaches; sleep impairment or excessive fatigue; and dizziness may all occur.

Victims may experience tinnitus, bad tastes in the mouth, blurred vision, and changes in the ability to smell as sensory symptoms of TBI. Mental symptoms may include difficulty concentrating, changes to mood and personality, and feelings of depression and anxiety.

These are all symptoms associated with even mild TBI. Victims who suffer moderate to severe brain injury may also experience symptoms including seizures and convulsions; dilated pupils; draining of clear fluid from the ears or nose; inability to wake up; numbness or weakness in fingers and toes; profound confusion; slurred speech; and consciousness disorders.

# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER SUSTAINING A BRAIN INJURY



If a TBI causes coma or extended loss of consciousness, patients may need round-the-clock care. Victims who sustain a traumatic brain injury may require rehabilitation to re-learn lost information or skills. Brain injury victims may not be able to return to their previous career and may experience a profound change in the quality of their lives.

TBI victims, or surviving family members, should understand their legal options. Victims who can prove someone else's negligence was significant in causing the brain injury can sue for the resulting economic and non-financial losses.

# GETTING HELP FROM A LONG BEACH BRAIN INJURY LAWYER

## Your Injuries are Personal to Me



An experienced brain injury attorney can provide guidance and advice after a TBI has occurred. Contact the Law Office of Michael D. Waks for assistance with determining how to pursue compensation for a brain injury. I will fight to get you maximum compensation.

Call the Law Office of Michael D. Waks at <u>888-394-1174</u> or use the convenient online <u>contact form</u> to schedule a free consultation. You are under no obligation and you will never pay any money unless you recover damages for your injuries.

I offer bilingual services as part of my comprehensive approach to legal representation and I am available 24/7 to talk to you about your case.

#### About the Author



#### Michael D. Waks

Personal injury victims need someone who understands their pain, who is invested in them and will guide them through the complicated maze of their medical and legal worries. They need an attorney who cares about them and their families.

My name is Michael Waks and I am a personal injury attorney in the Los Angeles Area focused on the needs of people who have suffered because of someone else's actions.

While still attending Southwestern University School of Law, I clerked for a big defense law firm that represented manufacturers of asbestos. I read the files and met the people whose lives were ruined by asbestos and I knew, for the rest of my career, I wanted to help people like them: the victims, not the perpetrators.

I have been doing just that for over 30 years. As soon as I passed the Bar I opened the Law Office of Michael D. Waks in Long Beach and began exclusively representing seriously injured accident victims. I decided to be a sole practitioner so I could handle every case personally. I understand clients are different and that in the wake of an accident their suffering will be unique, ranging from physical and financial to emotional.

I tell my clients from the start, "I want you to only worry about one thing, and that is to do exactly what your doctor tells you in order to get better. Leave the rest to me."



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