

HOW TO FIND HELP FOR LEGAL MATTERS

ABOUT US

Amber Community is an independent not-for-profit organisation. We provide free counselling, information, and support to people who have experienced road trauma.

LEGAL MATTERS

If you are bereaved or seriously injured in a transport incident, you may need to consider legal matters such as wills, probate, and claims for damages.

In Victoria, the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) is a no-fault accident compensation scheme. When you register your vehicle, you take out insurance that covers you in a transport accident for medical and rehabilitation costs and, in some instances, income support.

To receive benefits from the TAC, you must lodge a claim – you can call the TAC on 1300 654 329 or go to www.tac.vic.gov.au.

It can feel overwhelming, and you may want to consider getting legal advice to help navigate these complex issues.

HOW TO FIND A LAWYER

Choosing a lawyer is an important decision.

Generally, we recommend using an accredited specialist who is a lawyer recognised as having additional experience, training, and expertise in a particular area of law.

We have partnered with six legal firms that contribute between \$15,000 and \$20,000, depending on their partnership level, each year to our counselling, support, and advocacy services.

On the next page, we provide the first point of contact at these firms, and they have provided a short bio to share. We understand they will give you an hour consultation at no cost.

The Law Institute of Victoria can also provide a list of all lawyers registered in Victoria at www.liv.asn.au, or call 03 9607 9311.

You may want to contact a couple of people to find the person who feels best for you.

We do not endorse or recommend a particular person or firm, and we will not share your details without your consent. Your decision will not impact the support you receive – from them or us.

Note. We send this information to everyone, but you may not wish or need to use a lawyer.

Michael Constable, Henry Carus + Associates

At Henry Carus + Associates, Michael leads the way in handling TAC claims, demonstrating a deep understanding of the intricate process involved in assisting individuals grappling with the aftermath of road accidents. He takes pride in harmonising his empathetic nature to connect with clients while leveraging his extensive legal acumen toward achieving the compensation deserved.

With over a decade of experience, Michael has represented several clients who have sustained catastrophic injuries in transport accidents, as well as minors or people with a disability who are represented by litigation guardians, which can be challenging and delicate to manage.

Our team understand the pressures faced when life is thrown into turmoil. We provide you with professional, highly effective legal representation when you need it most.

T. 03 9001 1318 | info@hcalawyers.com.au

Megan Caines, Polaris Lawyers

Megan is a Principal Lawyer and head of the TAC department at Polaris Lawyers. Megan prides herself on her track record of representing injured Victorians, her strong communication skills, and providing straightforward advice to clients. Megan understands that an injury's impact is different for each person and takes the time to understand each client's unique story and the physical, emotional, and financial impact of their injury.

Polaris Lawyers is a boutique personal injury law firm combining over 50 years of big firm expertise with the personal service and empathy of a team dedicated to you and your case. Polaris Lawyers was awarded "Law Firm of the Year" at the Australian Law Awards in 2019.

T. 1300 383 825 | admin@polarislawyers.com.au

Lachlan Singe, Arnold Dallas McPherson

Lachlan is Partner at premier personal injury law firm Arnold Dallas McPherson and has been delivering exceptional personal injury legal services to Victorians since 2004. He has supported hundreds of victims of road trauma, from all walks of life, ensuring they receive the support and compensation they deserve. Lachlan is a Personal Injury Law Accredited Specialist.

He prides himself on being approachable and caring towards all clients and is often complimented by clients for his ability to communicate complex issues in a relatable way.

Lachlan prefers to meet in person and provides compassionate personal legal guidance, prioritising the well-being of his clients throughout their legal journey. This includes navigating complex compensation claims on a no-win, no-fee basis.

T. 03 9670 9066 | lachlans@ardmc.com.au

Tamara Wright, Shine Lawyers

Tamara Wright is the Legal Practice Manager for the Shine Lawyers Melbourne team specialising in transport accidents and work injuries. Tamara emphasises the importance of providing her clients with clear, actionable plans and regular, straightforward updates to ensure they make informed decisions throughout their claim. The goal is to secure the maximum compensation in the shortest time possible.

Shine Lawyers adopts a client-centred approach, highlighted by their specialised Early Assistance Team that offers support to individuals who have recently suffered injuries, ensuring they receive immediate guidance. As one of Australia's leading litigation law firms, Shine Lawyers has dedicated over 45 years to supporting injured Australians, striving to right wrong and fight for justice.

T. 03 9616 4281 | tawright@shine.com.au

Belinda Fenn, Nevin Lenne Gross Lawyers

Belinda is a Principal Lawyer working in the Personal Injury department of Nevin Lenne Gross. She is passionate about helping those who have been impacted by road trauma. Her empathetic approach, attention to detail, and timely and accurate advice provide her TAC clients with the personal and professional support they need during a difficult and emotional time.

Nevin Lenne Gross is a highly respected regional law firm, who offer expert advice in a variety of areas of law including injury claims, estates, estate disputes, family law, wills, powers of attorney, conveyancing, employment law and business transactions. Nevin Lenne Gross provide cost effective legal services with their number one focus being on the best outcomes for their clients.

T. 02 6024 7955 | bfenn@nlgsolicitors.com.au

Sarah Elseidy, Slater & Gordon Lawyers

Sarah is an experienced transport accident lawyer, having worked at Slater & Gordon since 2018. Sarah has been involved with Amber Community since then and utilises her fierce advocacy skills to achieve the best outcomes for her clients. Sarah's passion for client care, personable nature and empathy, in addition to her legal expertise, ensure that a holistic approach is utilised when engaging in the legal process.

Slater & Gordon have an in-house Social Work team that work alongside Sarah. Sarah's clients also have access to the full suite of specialist legal services offered by Slater & Gordon, including superannuation and disability insurance.

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