



WORKERS' COMPENSATION • SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY • LONG-TERM DISABILITY • VETERANS' BENEFITS

HOT TOPIC

Uber, Lyft, and Workers' Compensation

Can I drive for Uber or Lyft after my work injury?

It might be tempting to start driving for Uber or Lyft, after your work injury to supplement the loss of income. However, driving for ride-share companies is considered "working and earning an income". Therefore, it MUST be reported to your employer's insurance company as such. Failure to report this income to the insurance company, or your attorney, can severely jeopardize your case. This could also potentially lead to you being prosecuted for insurance fraud.

Furthermore, any income that you receive from Uber or Lyft while being paid workers' compensation benefits may reduce the amount paid to you by the insurance company. All new variables that could potentially impact your Workers' Compensation case must be reported to your legal team. Communication is key in going about the process of any Workers' Compensation case and anything that can be perceived as new regarding a case MUST be reported to your legal team.

What if I was a driver for Uber or Lyft before my work injury?

If you worked for either of the ride-share companies as a second job, before suffering your work injury, you MAY be able to continue driving for them. But, if you continue to drive, please consult with your workers' compensation attorney immediately.



Am I insured while driving for Uber or Lyft?

In the State of Pennsylvania, Uber and Lyft drivers are not legally considered "employees". Therefore, ride-share companies are NOT required to carry workers' compensation insurance policies to protect their drivers. In addition, it is important to note that most personal auto insurance policies do NOT cover drivers while performing ride-share or delivery services.

If you do decide to become a driver, please be sure to consult with your auto insurance provider to confirm coverage. You may be able to add an additional policy through your auto insurance provider that covers commercial use of your vehicle.

FREQUENT QUESTIONS



Upon my death, would my spouse or family receive my disability payments?

The answer to this question depends on your policy. Since they vary greatly, it is important to be familiar with the provisions in your policy. At Martin Law, if we represent you, we certainly can investigate your specific policy for this answer.

Contact Us

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

Joseph C. Huttemann, Esq.

Joseph C. Huttemann is a partner at Martin Law and has concentrated his practice in the area of workers' compensation litigation since 1992. Mr. Huttemann is the current Chairman of the Workers' Compensation section of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice, the leading organization for the protection of injured workers' rights in the commonwealth. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Huttemann defended workers' compensation claims for insurance carriers and employers. In addition to the litigation of many workers' compensation claims, he has also written extensively on the Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Act. He is the author of "The Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Act: An Employer's Guide" and "Act 57: A Legal Analysis," he has also written multiple articles published in The Legal Intelligencer. In the Spring of 2013, Mr. Huttemann became a certified specialist in Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation by the PA Bar Association's Section on Workers' Compensation Law as authorized by the PA Supreme Court. Mr. Huttemann also became a certified specialist in Veterans' Benefits that same year.

Mr. Huttemann has presented lectures on workers' compensation and Social Security disability to the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association and the Bucks County Bar Association. He was featured as a panelist at the CLE course, "Trick or Treat: Understanding the Interplay of Disability, Workers' Compensation and Tort Claims," during the 2014 Bench-Bar Annual Conference. He is an active member of the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association, the Bucks County Bar Association, and is also the past Co-Chairman of the Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel Workers' Compensation Section. Mr. Huttemann has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Serenity House, a non-profit, charitably funded hospice care group. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



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Areas of Practice
Workers Compensation

Litigation Percentage
100% of Practice Devoted to Litigation

Certified Legal Specialties
Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation

Education
J.D. The Dickinson School of Law (Carlisle, PA)
B.A. Bucknell University (Lewisburg, PA)

IN THE NEWS! Martin Law's Joe Huttemann joined a panel of esteemed experts presenting at the 2021 Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Virtual Conference May 17-18. This year's event focused on the future of Workers' Compensation. Joe's sessions at the conference concentrated on the "Gig Economy" and "Treatment & Evaluation of the Injured Worker".