

**Form 2.11  
CLIENT DIARY**

1. Purpose: At some time during the course of negotiations or trials, it will be necessary for us to show the nature and extent of the damage and injuries that you have suffered. In order that we may do this job better, we would like you to start making notes showing how your injuries have affected your life. Please continue doing this on a daily basis until you no longer have symptoms. Please mail these weekly records to our office.

2. Effect on Your Life: Explain in detail how this occurrence has changed your life. For example, the way you put on your clothes, the way you get in and out of bed, the way you take a bath, etc. Show changes in your working life, your playtime, your hobbies, and your life as a husband or as a wife, etc. This includes your disposition, your personality, your nervousness, etc. We need to know how it has affected the marital relations between you and your spouse. (The law calls this loss of consortium.)

3. Pain and Suffering: We want a description of your pain both at the scene of the accident and at all times thereafter. We want to know what type of pain, i.e., shooting pain, throbbing pain, etc. We are interested in your pain during the hospital treatment and your pain and discomfort since the injury and how it has affected your life.

4. How to Describe: A good rule to follow in order to remember all of your problems is to start at your head and, in detail, go down through all parts of your body moving from your head, neck, shoulders, etc., and explain in detail any problems that you have with each part of the body. Also, provide detail with regard to your medication and its purpose, if you know. For example, medication in the hospital for pain or afterwards for nervousness, etc.

5. Describe Difficulties in Doing Things: In regard to your activities such as your housework, yardwork, work at the office or factory, you should detail what things you are able to do and what things you are not able to do as well as before. If your injury seriously hampers your activities, then you should also show how many things you are unable to do now.

6. Loss of Wages or Loss of Potential Income: One of the major things in your case may be the loss of income or potential income. We will need wage rates, copies of your W-2 forms, and your income tax returns for at least the last five years. We will write your employer to obtain information relative to the exact days you missed from work because of this accident and the amount of money you would have made if you had been working these days. However, if you would also keep records of the time you lose from work, it would be helpful to us. If this injury has prevented you from being advanced in your employment or has prevented you from obtaining employment, please give us the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of witnesses who may prove this for you. We would also like to know in detail what services you have been prevented from performing, either household services, such as supervision of children, or any other services performed by a husband or wife.

7. General: If you need any help in preparation of these materials, please call the office for an appointment. The best way is to start, right now, by making notes. Then, after a few weeks, prepare a copy for us and a copy for yourself. As time goes on, prepare additional information and send it to the office.

8. Consider Your Whole Life: You know your life better than we do. Go into all aspects of your life. Explain to us, in the greatest detail possible, how this accident has affected your life.