

Do I Need a Lawyer? Worksheet + 20 Questions

Score your situation, then use the consultation questions to tell a good fit from a bad one. Most NC attorneys offer a free first consultation.

Part 1 — Should you talk to a lawyer?

Check every box that applies. The more you check, the stronger the case for at least a free consultation.

- Serious, permanent, or disputed injuries
- Liability is contested or shared blame is alleged (critical in NC)
- Multiple vehicles, a commercial truck, or a government vehicle
- The insurer denied the claim or made a lowball offer
- There's a coverage problem (uninsured / underinsured driver)
- Significant lost wages or future medical care
- You're being asked to sign a release or give a recorded statement

When you might handle it yourself

- Minor property damage with no or very minor injury
- Clear liability that the insurer accepts
- You've fully recovered with modest, documented bills

Remember the fee math

Most NC injury lawyers work on contingency (commonly about one-third). For serious or disputed claims, a lawyer often nets you more even after the fee — but for small, clear claims, the math can favor DIY.