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TRIPPING AND SLIPPING ACCIDENTS

Tripping and slipping accidents are very common and often lead to claims. The most common falls happen on the highway, at work and on premises owned by someone else.

What is a Highway?

As far as highways are concerned, this definition is wide and covers roads, street, footpaths, cycle tracks, public rights of way and bridleways. A Local Authority, County Council or an individual is likely to have responsibility for maintaining a highway and to ensure that it can be used and enjoyed safely.

Pavement Trips

You will have a claim if you can prove that the Local Authority failed to maintain the path and as a result the dangerous condition of the path caused your accident. You will have to show that it was reasonably foreseeable that you could have been exposed to danger which may lead to an injury. As a very rough rule of thumb a paving stone that is raised by more than an inch is likely to be found to be unsafe. However a Local Authority will have a defence to any claim if it can prove that in all the circumstances such care as was reasonably necessary, was taken. Every case is different and the type of pavement, its location, the number of people using it, the knowledge of the Authority responsible for it and the existence of any warning notices will all be relevant.

Trips and Falls in Shops and Supermarkets

These are very common. Owners of shops and supermarkets have to ensure that their premises are reasonably safe for people using the premises. A number of factors must be taken into account including the purpose of your visit, the stores knowledge of the danger, lighting, warning signs, a system of inspection and the degree of difficulty in making the premises safe.

Evidence

In any slipping or tripping case it is very important to obtain evidence in support of the fault as quickly as possible. Any delay may mean that the defect will be put right or repaired. Photographs are often very useful, as are measurements and of course statements from independent witnesses. We always advise that you speak to us as quickly as possible about bringing a claim.

We have dealt with many tripping and slipping claims ranging from the relatively minor, to those claims where very substantial compensation has been recovered for the injuries sustained and related losses and expenses. We hope we can be of help in dealing with your claim.

For advice or information on the above, please contact Richard Gregory or Rachel Barr on FREEPHONE: 0800 652 2204

We'll make it better