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Statement from the Kentucky Justice Association Regarding the Practice of Using Runners

The Kentucky Justice Association (KJA) is adamantly opposed to the illegal practice of using so-called “runners” to solicit business from injured people on behalf of anyone, be they medical providers, attorneys or financial service providers.

“We believe that it should be illegal for anyone to solicit business from those who have just been injured because it shifts the focus from where it should be – getting to and receiving quality care,” said Doug Morris, a Louisville attorney and KJA President. “Those injured in car wrecks have already become victims once, and no one should be allowed to victimize them again.”

Solutions do exist, however the problem has been getting legislation passed in Kentucky’s Legislature. In the past two legislative sessions, KJA has been a strong advocate for laws that would put an end to these solicitations. Unfortunately, each year such measures have been unsuccessful due to pressure from those who support the practice.

“KJA plans to once again advocate for this issue in the upcoming 2011 Session,” said Morris. “Our association, along with several insurance companies and healthcare providers, is prepared to sit down with legislators in both houses and on both sides of the aisle to put a stop to this once and for all. We urge all Kentuckians to contact their Representative and Senator and tell them that this is a problem that should be fixed in this session before anyone else is harmed.”

In the meantime, we implore Kentucky citizens to report any such behavior to their local law enforcement immediately. In cases like these, waiting to report an incident can mean someone receives substandard medical treatment, improper financial or legal advice, or worse.

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