

How to Handle a Fall on a Municipal Sidewalk

Slipping and falling on a municipal sidewalk can cause serious injuries, but it is often hard to know what options you have available after such an experience.

If you have been injured in a slip and fall on a municipal sidewalk, the Municipal Act requires you to provide the clerk of the municipality with written notice of your claim and the injuries that you have sustained. The written notice must be served on the clerk, or sent to the clerk by registered mail, within 10 days after the occurrence of the injury.

If a sidewalk is maintained by more than one municipality, the clerks of each responsible municipality must be notified. If you fail to provide notice as required by the Act, you may be barred from bringing an action for compensation for your injuries, although there are certain exceptions to this rule.

The Municipal Act also states that a municipality is not liable for injuries caused by snow or ice on a sidewalk, except in cases of gross negligence. Whether or not a municipality has been

grossly negligent will depend on the individual circumstances of each case, so you should consult a personal injury lawyer as soon as possible to obtain advice regarding your case.

If you have any questions concerning personal injury law please do not hesitate to contact me directly 613.288.3203 or by email at sveltri@tslawyers.ca

Disclaimer: This article is provided as an information resource and is not intended to replace advice from a qualified legal professional and should not be relied upon to make decisions. In all cases, contact your legal professional for advice on any matter referenced in this document before making decisions. Any use of this document does not constitute a lawyer-client relationship.



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CALL TO THE BAR

Law Society of Upper Canada, 2009

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

University of Ottawa, LL.B., 2008
University of Alberta, B.A. (Hons.), 2005

PRACTICE SUMMARY:

Sabina is an Associate in the Civil Litigation Practice Group. She attended law school at the University of Ottawa. Sabina articulated with Tierney Stauffer and joined the firm as an Associate in the Civil Litigation Practice Group after her call to the Ontario Bar in 2009.

Sabina practices in areas of personal injury, employment law, contract litigation and insurance litigation. Sabina has appeared on matters before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Ontario Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal for Ontario. She also has experience negotiating the settlement of matters before tribunals such as the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal and the Ontario Labour Relations Board.

Sabina is a member of the Young Lawyers and Articling Students Planning Committee of the County of Carleton Law Association. She is also a volunteer with Law Help Ontario, a legal clinic operated by Pro Bono Law Ontario.