

## MY LEGAL RIGHTS

**Q. Last July my son's car was hit by a City vehicle that had run a stop sign. The City has admitted fault, but it will only agree to pay \$100,000 for my son's injuries even though he has over \$150,000 in medical bills and is now blind in his right eye. This does not seem fair, what are my son's legal rights?**

A. In Oregon, the most that any public body has to pay as a result of negligently harming someone is governed by statute (Oregon Tort Claims Act). In most cases, if you are hurt because of the negligence of a public employee the most you can recover for your injuries is \$100,000 - even if you are blind. Although it seems unfair that your son will only get partial reimbursement from the City, the Oregon Supreme Court has ruled this law constitutional. That same law also requires your son to put the City on special notice of his claim. Generally, he has to advise them of his claim within 180 days from the date of the incident. Anytime you have a claim against a City, County or State employee, you should consult with an experienced personal injury attorney. **Look for our DOMESTIC RELATIONS discussion beginning next week.**

**Oliveros & O'Brien, PC**  
**Personal Injury Group**  
**(503) 282-7285 [www.orinjuryhelp.com](http://www.orinjuryhelp.com)**