

## MY LEGAL RIGHTS

**Q. I was recently involved in a car crash in Vancouver. Strangely, the other driver also lives here in Oregon City. I was hurt, and I want to protect my rights. Should I consult with an Oregon attorney, or do I need a Washington attorney?**

A. Because we live near the Oregon/Washington border this is a very common question. Your choice of attorneys is dependent upon where you would file your lawsuit. Both Oregon and Washington law provides that you have a right to file your lawsuit against the other driver either (1) where the collision took place or (2) where the other driver lives. In your case you may have the right to choose either state. Although the laws in Oregon and Washington in some ways are very similar, they also are very different. For example, in most negligence cases, like yours, Oregon has a two year statute of limitations while in Washington it is three years. There are other important factors to consider. To protect your rights you should consult with an experienced attorney licensed in both states.

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