



SOMEK AND ASSOCIATES

medico-legal consultancy

expert witness services

DEPENDENCY AND LOSS OF SERVICE REPORTS

At Somek and Associates, we have a 25 year + history of providing Dependency and Loss of Service reports in Fatal Accident claims

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somek
.com

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We currently have approximately 30 care experts (occupational therapists and nurses) who have been trained by specialist solicitors/barristers and are experienced in the preparation of these reports.

Our experts are instructed by Claimant and Defendant solicitors (including NHSR approved panel firms). Furthermore, we run regular training and refresher training in this area, so continue to expand the number of experts who can prepare reports of this nature.

Our experts understand the legal principles on which loss of service and dependency are considered, with reference to the case law as it relates to fatal injuries/accidents (Spittle -v- Bunney; Stanley -v- Siddique; Arnup -v- White; Knauer -v- Ministry of Defence and other cases). They therefore understand the different approach required in respect of dependency and loss of service.

We can provide dependency and loss of service reports in relation to the following cases:



Lynn Hannon

Lynn is a nurse consultant with expertise in loss of service, learning disabilities and community care.

Testimonials

"I would have been confident in proceeding to trial with Lynn and her evidence being preferred. Lynn came across well in conference and her written work was very good. She met the timescales required and I would use her again."

"I was impressed by Lynn I have to say. She reported in a straightforward and realistic way and was quick to take on board Counsel's requests for amendments where necessary. I will certainly look to instruct her and Somek again in suitable cases."

● Adult of children dependents with no disability, and where:

- one or more of the dependents (adult of child) has a disability.
- the deceased was disabled or was likely to develop a disability, affecting their ability to provide services.
- there was a delay in diagnosis in respect of the deceased (and where past care also requires valuation) and where there are dependents with disability/no disability.

Our care experts firstly consider the 'Two Stage Test' when providing their opinions:

- What services would the deceased actually have provided?
- How can these services reasonably be replaced?

We will undertake a comprehensive assessment with the dependents, and other family members using Skype, telephone or video technology if appropriate (as in current circumstances related to Covid-19).



Nicola White

Nikki is an occupational therapist in independent practice, whose expertise includes loss of service, paediatrics, including Erb's palsy, autism and long-term conditions.

Testimonials

"May I take this opportunity of thanking you very much indeed for your assistance during the course of the case."

"Please thank Nicola for all her hard work on this case."

"I was pleased with the input received from Nicola White throughout the claim."

As practising clinicians, our experts handle assessments with utmost sensitivity. On occasions these reports are also undertaken as a desktop paper-based report.

Where the dependent has a disability, the expert will assess physical, cognitive and psychological function and needs in order to determine on-going care provision as relevant to the case and taking into account the legal principles involved.

The reports may focus on, but are not limited to the following heads of claim: care, childcare, domestic tasks, household management and ad hoc tasks, home maintenance, gardening, pet care and car maintenance.

Here is just a sample of our experts who carry out Loss of Service reports. If you would like to see a sample report or are interested in instructing one of our experts, please contact admin@somek.com or call us on 01494 792711.



Joanne Boothroyd

Jo is a consultant occupational therapist in independent practice, specialising in loss of service, neurological conditions, including brain injury and stroke.

Testimonials

"I can say that one of the reasons we were able to obtain such a good outcome for the Claimant was because of Joanne's report, and her very thorough analysis of past and future care."

"Further to the aforementioned matter we confirm this case is now settled and your expert input was instrumental in achieving the best outcome for our client. We would recommend your services in the future."