

# Criminal investigations in Personal Injury claims

## What clients need to know

### Why two processes?

When someone is badly injured in a road traffic collision or another serious accident, two different legal processes may begin:

#### Criminal investigation

Looks at whether a crime has been committed (e.g. causing serious injury by dangerous driving). This can lead to prosecution.

#### Civil claim

Focuses on getting compensation to support your recovery, rehabilitation, and future needs.

The two processes run side by side. Ideally, the criminal case finishes first, so you know where you stand. But sometimes that doesn't happen.

## What happens if the criminal case is discontinued?

Not all criminal cases go through to trial. They may stop because:

The defendant is too unwell to face proceedings.

The defendant has died.

External or procedural factors prevent the case continuing.

This does not mean your civil claim is over. But it can leave you with difficult emotions: frustration, confusion, or a lack of closure.

## How it affects your civil claim

Even if the criminal case ends, you can still:

Pursue your civil claim.

Secure compensation to pay for treatment, rehabilitation & care.

Continue with your lawyer's support until resolution.

The two systems are separate. One does not depend on the other.

## How lawyers can support you

At Moore Barlow, our role is not only legal but also supportive. We will:

Keep you updated regularly.

Be honest about what to expect from your claim.

Listen and acknowledge how you and your family feel.

Signpost you to counselling, rehabilitation, or support groups if needed.

We understand that the emotional journey can be as hard as the legal one.

## Next steps

If your criminal case has been discontinued and you are unsure what this means for your civil claim:

Speak to a specialist personal injury lawyer as soon as possible.

Ask about both the legal steps and the support available.

Focus on what the civil claim can achieve for your recovery and future security.

## How Moore Barlow Can Help

Our serious injury team is experienced in dealing with complex claims where the criminal case has not concluded. We combine expert legal work with a human approach, supporting you at every stage.

Contact us today to discuss your case →

Start your conversation today

023 8071 8000  
moorebarlow.com