

# Ottawa lawyer reminds OC Transpo bus crash victims to protect legal rights

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FIRST POSTED: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 05:34 PM EDT | UPDATED: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 09:55 PM EDT

Bus collides with Via train in Ottawa

IMAGE: 1 OF 36



**Police and investigators from the Transportation Safety Board investigate a collision between a Via train and an OC Transpo commuter bus in Ottawa on September 18, 2013. (ERROL MCGIHON/QMI Agency)**

As the city grapples with the aftermath of Wednesday's fatal bus and train collision, an Ottawa lawyer is already reminding people who were injured or who are considering filing lawsuits to protect their legal rights.

In a Thursday morning website post, personal injury lawyer David Hollingsworth said citizens have 120 days to notify the city if they intend to sue.

"From there, you have time to see how/if your emotional and physical injuries heal," he wrote. "At the end of the 120 days, you can then decide how you want to proceed."

"You may decide to later withdraw your claim and that is fine."

He also advised people injured in the crash to seek medical attention as quickly as possible, even if the injuries seem to be minor.

"This will not only help you diagnose the extent of your injuries, it can also help down the road should complications arise from your injuries," he wrote.

"Don't try to nurse yourself back to health, get examined by a physician and let them decide the extent of the injuries. It is always better to be safe than sorry."

Hollingsworth also noted emotional and psychological trauma can be as serious as actual physical injuries.

Traumatic events can have lifelong effects and the littlest things can trigger flashbacks.

Lawyers can help arrange meetings with professionals, Hollingsworth wrote.

"And we will make sure the insurance company covers all expenses."

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