## **Litigation Process**

## UNFAIR OFFER

FILE A COMPLAINT

## DEFENDANT ANSWERS INITIAL DISCLOSURES

- Unfair offer
- Liability dispute



- File with District Court
- Begin Lawsuit



- Defendant is served
- Defendant has 20 days to file their answer



- AND FACT DISCOVERY
- Information regarding case is disclosed by both sides
- Evidence collected for trial or arbitration
- Depositions occur
- More information submitted to courts

# 5 CONTINUED SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

- Settlement negotiations revisited
- Mediations to attempt to facilitate settlement



#### 6 EXPERT DISCOVERY

 Experts are hired to help prove/disprove injuries, causation, liability, etc.



## PREPARE FOR TRIAL

- If still not settled, the case is certified for trial
- Judge holds hearing to lay out rules and set trial dates
- Mediation may be required

## TRIAL OR ARBITRATION

- Jury trial for an injury case lasts 2-3 days
- Arbitration for an injury case lasts 2-3 hours



