

## **Wrongful Death**

### **1. What is a wrongful death case?**

If the death of a person is caused by the wrongful act, reckless conduct or negligence of another, the personal representative of the estate can recover damages on behalf of certain beneficiaries for the wrongful death. These damages include pain and suffering, funeral expenses, medical bills, and the value of the deceased's life, including the money likely to be earned during his or her lifetime less the deductions permitted by law, loss of the enjoyment of life, and loss of consortium regarding a spouse or child.

### **2. Who receives the money recovered from a wrongful death case?**

Beneficiaries, or those entitled to receive the proceeds from a wrongful death case, are based on statutes. The decedent's relatives including children, spouse, or parents may have claims for all, or part, of the proceeds.