

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Katherine Polich

kpolich@myjustice.com

608-257-7900

CLIFFORD & RAIHALA, S.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Governor Walker Restricts the Rights of Victims

Madison, WI (January 17, 2011) – Immediately following the oath of office, Governor Walker has begun the process of restricting citizens' rights to fair compensation in Wisconsin courts. Walker's bill and other pending legislation will, if enacted, drive up health care and disability costs for government and the private sector.

Walker's legislation limits non-economic damages awarded against nursing homes, limits liability in consumer protection actions, and prohibits the use of relevant evidence in medical malpractice cases. Other legislation introduced in the legislature this week would repeal [Truth in Auto Insurance](#) legislation stripping away insurance protection for Wisconsin consumers.

Keith R. Clifford, a nationally board Certified Civil Trial Specialist and partner at [Clifford & Raihala, S.C.](#), is available for interviews and information regarding the Special Session legislation that has been recently proposed by Governor Walker.

Clifford said: **"The Governor's bill and a proposed repeal of Truth in Auto insurance law will both hurt taxpayers and drive up the cost of health care and health insurance.** When someone is hurt in a [car accident](#), their medical bills are normally paid by a health insurer or the government. When we file suit for the victim, we collect the money paid by the government or the health insurer and we have to pay them back."

"When we recover money on behalf of a victim, we are also paying back the private health insurance company, the government, or the health care providers. This legislation makes that task harder. The result will be higher health care and health insurance costs. **We are talking about millions and millions of dollars that now may be the responsibility of taxpayers and private health insurers.**"

About Keith R. Clifford

ATTORNEY KEITH R. CLIFFORD has been named [Wisconsin's Trial Lawyer of the Year](#) in 2004. He is a nationally board certified Civil Trial Specialist and has been routinely rated among Madison, Wisconsin's Top Lawyers in personal injury and medical malpractice law by the Madison Magazine Attorneys Poll. He is ranked among the top 5% of all Wisconsin lawyers as a Wisconsin Super Lawyer. He currently is a member of the Dane County Bar Association, the State Bar of Wisconsin and the American Association for Justice. Mr. Clifford is a member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Association for Justice. For more information, visit www.myjustice.com.

###