

UPWARD MOBILITY

C.B. Anderson

Your life is special when it comes with solid guarantees, when there's nothing exceptional about your far remove from every squalid result. A contingent-fee professional

is vital if your outcomes fall too short of expectations. Pay attention to the victimized who settle out of court—the victim next in line may well be you—

but don't forget to make some careful notes about their advocates, who seldom go to trial: Do they wear vests under their coats? How polished are their manicures? Although

their smiles are perfect, were they born this way or did they buy them from the guy whose ads are on the radio? On holiday in Newport, do they favor stripes or plaids?

The reason these things matter is because your settlement will mean you can afford the lifestyle of the rich. Why should some scuzz attorney get a third of your award?

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