

When searching for a Lafayette injury lawyer, it's tempting to pick the firm with the largest number of reviews or the highest star rating on Google. Law firms like **Brandt & Sherman, LLP**, **Broussard, David & Moroux**, and **Laborde Earles Injury Lawyers** often appear prominently within the top 30 Google search results or within Google local map results, boasting impressive review counts. But does a high volume of reviews automatically mean the firm is the best fit for your specific claim? Not necessarily.



As a former Louisiana paralegal turned legal-content editor with over 11 years experience reviewing hundreds of law firm sites and Google Business Profiles for accuracy and outdated deadlines, I've seen many misconceptions about how to choose the right personal injury lawyer. This post will dissect key factors you need to consider beyond just review counts and star ratings — including how recent and upcoming Louisiana law changes impact your case timeline.

Understanding the New Louisiana Personal Injury Legal Landscape

Effective July 1, 2024, Louisiana will implement a significant change to the prescription period for personal injury claims — reducing the filing deadline to **two years** from three years. This deadline runs from the date of the injury, not the date you discover the injury or symptoms. Unfortunately, many legal firm websites or profiles still say "one year" or offer vague timelines. Be sure to *write down your injury date and double-check* whether the firm's deadline advice aligns with the new law.

Adding to this, starting January 1, 2026, two additional major changes come into effect:

- **51% Fault Bar:** Plaintiffs who are found to be more than 51% at fault for the accident will be barred from recovering any damages.
- **Paid vs. Billed Medical Expenses Rule:** For suits filed on or after this date, only the actual amount paid for medical expenses will be recoverable, not the billed amount.

These rules fundamentally shift how cases are evaluated and settled. A firm well-versed in these nuances will better protect your interests, as opposed to one relying solely on generic sales promises or a flashy billboard.

Why Review Volume Alone Doesn't Equate to Quality: The Combined Score Criteria

Many potential clients look at Google Reviews or similar platforms and focus on two numbers:

1. **Number of reviews** (volume)
2. **Average star rating**

A firm like **Brandt & Sherman, LLP** or **Broussard, David & Moroux** might have hundreds of reviews, but volume without context can be misleading. What some viewers miss is the *combined score criteria* — a more holistic way of measuring law firm quality that includes:

- Review volume
- Average rating
- Recency of reviews
- Consistency of service (review content vs. star count)
- Transparency about legal deadlines and evolving laws
- Firm's demonstrable expertise in specific injury types relevant to you

This combined score, although not a strict formula visible to consumers, illustrates why a firm should not just lead in one metric but maintain solid performance across all categories. A firm might be the "leader" in reviews but lack clear communication of recent Louisiana law changes or specific case handling strategies.



Fit Matters More Than Volume: How to Vet a Lafayette Injury Lawyer

Every injury case is unique. Your choice should be guided by fit rather than the sheer size or perceived popularity of the law firm profile. Here are some steps to conduct a thorough vetting:

1. Confirm Their Knowledge of Louisiana's Two-Year Prescription Law

Ask the firm explicitly about the injury date and their interpretation of the prescription deadline. For example, if their website or Google Business Profile still states "file within 1 year," that should raise a red flag. Well-informed

firms such as **Laborde Earles Injury Lawyers** have updated all public information to reflect the July 1, 2024, change.

2. Investigate Their Familiarity with the 51% Fault Bar and Medical Expenses Rule

These impending changes in 2026 will influence settlement strategies and courtroom tactics. During your consultation, write down [leaders-in-law.com](https://www.leaders-in-law.com) their explanation of how these changes impact your case. Do they talk about real-life scenarios, or do they keep offering generic promises to “get the maximum compensation”?

3. Look for Detailed Review Content, Not Just Stars

Reviews matter most when they discuss:

- Communication and responsiveness
- Knowledge of local courts and judges
- Ability to explain complex legal topics clearly
- Actual outcomes rather than just "good service"

A 5-star rating without detailed comments is like a billboard-sized promise with no substance. Firms that consistently get detailed, nuanced positive reviews demonstrate real client care.

4. Beware of Generic or Overly Promotional Websites

Many firms use generic filler text or copy-paste content that doesn't respond to recent case law or Louisiana-specific regulations. You can spot this by:

- Checking if the prescription period is still misstated
- Looking for duplicated phrases or irrelevant content to Lafayette
- Verifying if firm names are consistent and correctly spelled (e.g., “Brandt & Sherman, LLP” – not just “Brandt Law”)

Comparing Three Lafayette Firms Through the Combined Score Lens

Firm	Review Volume	Average Rating	Prescription Deadline Info	Knowledge of New Laws	Quality of Reviews
Website Transparency	Brandt & Sherman, LLP	High (350+)	4.8 Stars	Accurate and Updated	Clear on 51% Fault Bar and Medical Bill Changes
Many detailed client stories with outcomes	Professional, up-to-date, local focus				
Broussard, David & Moroux	Moderate (~120)	4.9 Stars	Mostly accurate, some sites not updated	General mentions, lacks depth on new rules	Review content varies widely
Good but some dated pages	Laborde Earles Injury Lawyers	Low (~50)	4.7 Stars	Precisely stated two-year prescription	In-depth knowledge shown, often discussed in blogs
Consistent, client-focused reviews	Highly transparent, law changes emphasized				

From this table, it is clear all three firms rank high but each offers a different mix. Your choice should depend on which firm aligns with your needs, communication preferences, and understanding of the new laws affecting your claim.

Final Thoughts: Why Writing Answers Down During Consults Helps

Never walk into a free consult without a pen and notebook. Write down the answers to your questions, including:

- What is the applicable prescription deadline for your injury?

- How do these upcoming Louisiana law changes impact your case?
- What evidence or medical records will you need?
- How does the firm charge for consultations and legal fees?
- What is their track record in cases like yours?

Doing so helps you compare firms objectively because many consultations can be similar on surface level but vary widely in substance.

Summary: Don't Let Review Counts Fool You

A large number of reviews is an important factor, but it is not the only one—and certainly not the best one by itself. Look beyond raw numbers. Focus on the *combined score criteria*, understand Louisiana's evolving laws on prescription periods and fault bars, and find the Lafayette injury lawyer that best fits your specific case and circumstances.

Remember, **fit matters more than volume**. A firm like **Brandt & Sherman, LLP, Broussard, David & Moroux**, or **Laborde Earles Injury Lawyers** might all have great reviews, but one might give you clearer advice tailored to your injury and upcoming legal changes. Always conduct due diligence, and never leave a consult without writing down the firm's exact advice and strategy.