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Fall 2019

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES



2019 is a very special year for Galfand Berger! We are celebrating milestone anniversaries for two of our Senior Partners, Debra Jensen and Rick Jurewicz.

At Galfand Berger, we enjoy sharing good news, and that is why we decided to dedicate an entire issue of *In Brief* to them. Read on!



Twenty years ago, Galfand Berger partners unanimously elected Debra as our firm's newest Managing Partner. Unbelievably, that was in 1999, which feels like yesterday to many of us. At the time, Deb's election was groundbreaking! She was one of only three female Managing Partners in any Philadelphia law firm. In fact, Philadelphia's major legal newspaper reported Deb's election on its front page. Deb is a born leader, and she immediately took on the job with her sharp mind, steady hand, and determination, all the while handling complicated legal cases and – most importantly – ensuring that Galfand Berger remained true to its original mission: helping injured people and their families.

In 1984, Rick Jurewicz joined Galfand Berger as a new associate attorney. Early on, Galfand Berger's founding partners quickly recognized Rick as an attorney with a BIG future, and they were right! Rick works ceaselessly for his clients, and his record of accomplishments speaks for itself. Over thirty-five years, Rick has piled up win after win, in and out of the courtroom. Along the way,

something else happened. Rick came upon a significant personal discovery. The Galfand Berger culture and environment provided him with a unique opportunity to have one-on-one relationships with each of his clients and to bring about real, meaningful, and lasting impact on their lives.

Many things change over time, but the important ones do not. Our office is not the one in which Deb and Rick began working more than three decades ago. We have many new faces, too. However, there is one thing that will never change at Galfand Berger, and that is our guiding principle – our mission – to help injured people and their families. Over the course of three decades, Galfand Berger's recoveries add up to nearly a half billion dollars. Our mission continues.

Deb and Rick will be the first people to tell you that our firm's successes do not belong to only one or two people. It takes a team. With Galfand Berger's great partners, hardworking associates, and dedicated staff members, we are that winning team.

GALFAND BERGER, LLP

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MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Debra Jensen

Twenty Years as Managing Partner

Running a law firm is not an easy task. Doing that and handling a successful medical malpractice, products liability, and personal injury practice takes real talent. That is why it was an easy decision for Galfand Berger's partners when they elected Debra Jensen as the firm's Managing Partner in 1999.

While the decision may have shattered a glass ceiling twenty years ago, it was simply the smart move for Galfand Berger.

These past two decades have proven the partners made the right choice. As the daughter of a union painter, Debra's belief in the rights of workers and injury victims has not only shaped her leadership but also has strengthened our firm's core mission of helping injured people.

Under her leadership, our firm has expanded offices, handled more complex cases, developed our third generation

of partners, cultivated new associates and experienced staff, and grown our client base.

Debra has also taken on challenging cases leading to great results for her clients. As a result of her efforts, injured people can focus on getting well knowing that they and their families have the resources they need to heal.

As Debra has noted "When a person is injured through no fault of their own, too often they face a long, painful recovery. They don't want to think about lost wages, lost benefits, and lost opportunities. And, they want to make sure bills are paid and their family cared for. That's where our firm helps."

Debra does all of this and still finds time to invest in our communities through her *pro-bono* activities. She has raised tens of thousands of dollars serving on the

Board of Directors of the Legal Clinic for the Disabled (LCD). The LCD provides free legal services to low-income people with physical disabilities in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties, Pennsylvania.

And, in 2019, The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appointed Debra as a Hearing Committee Member. She joins a group of distinguished attorneys who ensure that all lawyers in Pennsylvania comply with the rules of ethics.

Debra Jensen: firm leader, trailblazer, true to her roots, role model.





MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Rick Jurewicz

Thirty-Five Years Fighting for Injured People

In July, 1984, after completing his judicial clerkship with Justice James T. McDermott of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Rick started his legal career at Galfand Berger. Rick chose our firm because he wanted to be a trial lawyer fighting for accident victims. In the years since, Rick has become a leader in the field of products liability, where he has had a real and lasting impact on people's lives.

Rick is a powerful ally for hurt and disabled clients; people who need a street fighter in their corner. He is the voice for people injured by unsafe machinery and equipment. He fights for turnpike workers injured in work zone accidents. And, he represents victims of construction, factory, railyard, foundry, and steel mill accidents.

Rick does this so that his clients have freedom from financial hardships, which so

often result from their catastrophic injuries. Many times, unable to work, his clients are faced with mounting bills. Rick's efforts allow his clients to focus on what matters – their health and their family's well-being. And, an important dividend to Rick are the long-lasting friendships he has enjoyed with many clients after their cases have concluded.

Fighting for his clients, Rick routinely takes on large corporations and insurance companies as he seeks justice. His efforts have also made him a tireless force for product reform. He's fought to make equipment manufacturers design, build, and sell safer products. This benefits us all.

So, it comes as no surprise that Rick has been selected to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Top 100 lawyer's list, an honor limited to only 100 out of Pennsylvania's

nearly 34,000 lawyers! And, it is why he is listed on The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers of Pennsylvania, the Best Lawyers in America, is a Lifetime Charter Member in the Best Attorneys of America, and the National Association of Distinguished Counsel. All well-earned honors.

Rick's skilled advocacy as a trial lawyer has helped create safer workplaces, safer roads, safer construction sites, and safer machines and equipment. His efforts have had an enduring impact on generations of workers.



Fun Facts about **Debra Jensen**



What's a favorite hobby?

Gardening and Cooking

What do you like to read?

Detective Novels

Do you have any pets?

A Ferocious Cat Named "Squirrel"
(actually, he's a love-bug)

Galfand Berger, LLP

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Fun Facts about **Rick Jurewicz**



What's a favorite hobby?

Scuba Diving

Do you have a favorite movie?

Jaws

Name a favorite vacation spot?

Underwater