

Rick Jurewicz Obtains \$2.5 Million Recovery for Hand Injury Case

Rick Jurewicz has another accomplishment to add to his long list of record-setting achievements: a \$2.5 million dollar settlement in Berks County, one of the largest settlements recorded there!

Rick represented a hardworking family man who suffered devastating injuries when his hand and forearm were pulled into a paper shredding machine. Our client had been a temporary employee at a recycling plant in Berks County. He was trying to clear a paper jam from the shredding machine, when a co-worker put the machine into reverse, pulling our client’s arm right back into the shredder. As a result, our client’s hand was amputated and he suffered severe forearm injuries as well.

Rick performed a careful investigation and learned that the

paper shredder machine lacked a guard attachment (a guard would have prevented the devastating injuries caused when the machine was put into reverse). Rick filed a lawsuit against the machine

manufacturer and seller, claiming that the paper shredder was defectively designed and unsafe. He was right. Rick settled the case prior to trial, ensuring that our client will have funds to help him and his family move ahead.

This case is just one example of the many multi-million dollar recoveries achieved by Galfand Berger attorneys over the past sixty-five years. If you or someone you love has been injured, contact us by email at mail@galfandberger.com or by phone at

**Personal
Injury
Attorneys
Helping
People**

1-800-222-8792. ■

Supreme Court Clarifies the Rules for Retirement on Workers’ Compensation

When you’re hurt at work, the last thing you want to do is navigate the Workers’ Compensation process. Too often, employers throw up road blocks trying to limit your benefits. Fortunately, the lawyers at Galfand Berger are here to help.

Part of our job is to make you aware of changes in the law and this article is about an important new development. In the past, a Pennsylvania worker who retired after a work injury may have lost his or her Workers’ Compensation benefits. Employers argued that a worker collecting a pension didn’t deserve workers’ compensation because the worker never intended to work again.

All too often, the courts agree with the employers. However, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recently came out on the side of an injured worker in a new retirement case. The court said that just because someone decided to receive their pension does not mean they wanted to retire.

The facts of this recent Supreme Court decision explain why. In this case, the hurt worker was a police officer who started getting Workers’ Compensation benefits

after she was hurt on the job. The injured officer was awarded a pension because she could not return to her job as a police officer. However, she was capable of performing light or modified duty work. The police officer told the court that she took her pension because the employer had eliminated her light-duty position. In addition, the police officer told the court that she registered for work with the Pennsylvania Job Center. In other words, she wanted to work but the employer took away her job!

In reviewing these facts, the Supreme Court agreed that the employer did not prove that the injured officer intended to retire from work altogether; she just couldn’t work in her police job and, for this reason, took her pension benefits. The Supreme Court ordered the continuation of her workers’ compensation benefits.

This is good news! While the court’s decision does not change the rule that employees who truly remove themselves from the work force may lose their Workers’ Compensation benefits, it does require a more common sense approach in making



the determination of what constitutes retirement. It’s important for an injured worker to make an informed decision before applying for pension or retirement benefits (including Social Security Retirement benefits) as this decision can have serious consequences down the road.

If you have been injured at work, contact Galfand Berger. A Workers’ Compensation case can involve complex issues. Our lawyers will guide you through the process so that you can maintain your eligibility for benefits and maximize your compensation.



We've Done It Again!

Galfand Berger Lawyers Selected to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

Year after year Galfand Berger attorneys are recognized for their unwavering commitment to our clients. This year we are proud to announce that five of our attorneys—Arthur Bugay, Marc Jacobs, Rick Jurewicz, Peter Patton and Norman Weinstein—have once again been recognized for their achievements by their inclusion in the 2013 *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* list. Rick Jurewicz was also selected to the list of *Top 100 Philadelphia Lawyers*.

Additionally, Galfand Berger attorneys Michael Malvey and Henry Yampolsky were named to the list of 2013 *Pennsylvania Rising Stars*.

Selection to the *Super Lawyers* list is an honor reserved for only the top 5% of more than 34,000 attorneys practicing in Pennsylvania. And, the honor of *Rising Star* is only given to two-and-a-half percent of Pennsylvania lawyers under the age of 40. The *Super Lawyers* selection uses a process of nomination and voting by peers to single out attorneys who have made noteworthy achievements in their area of practice.

It would be an honor to have one attorney recognized by *Super Lawyers* magazine, let alone seven. A glimpse at their biographies shows that Arthur, Marc, Rick, Peter, Norman, Mike and Henry have earned this recognition through their tireless work for their clients and their community.



Arthur Bugay's practice areas include Products' Liability, Construction Accident litigation, Personal Injury litigation, Negligent Security, and Employment law. Arthur is a regular presenter at Continuing Legal Education seminars and has taught at Temple University and Moravian College. He currently teaches Products Liability law at

Temple University's Beasley School of Law. Arthur is an "AV" rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell and a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates' Forum. In addition to his work in the firm's Personal Injury Department, Arthur is an advocate for disabled and injured children and for the elderly, which is evident through the volunteer legal services he provides for the Legal Clinic for the Disabled. In 2009, Arthur was Pennsylvania's regional top fundraiser for the American Diabetes Association, and has participated in a series of Iron-Man competitions to fundraise for both the ADA and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association. This is Arthur's fourth consecutive year to be selected to the *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* list.



Marc Jacobs, who is now *Of Counsel* at Galfand Berger, represents and protects disabled workers. Marc is the 2013 recipient of the Martha Hampton Award, which he received for his commitment to protecting the rights of injured workers and his tireless advocacy on behalf of his clients. He also co-authored PBI's publication *Fundamentals of Workers' Compensation*. Marc has previously been selected to *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* for 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.



Rick Jurewicz represents people injured by unsafe products and defective tools, equipment, and machinery. As a trial attorney, he is Board Certified as a Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. Rick holds memberships in the Million Dollar Advocates forum, Outstanding Lawyers of America, American Association for Justice, Pennsylvania Association for Justice, the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association, and the American Academy of Trial Counsel. With more than \$150

million in verdicts and settlements for his clients, Rick is responsible for some of the largest recoveries in Galfand Berger's history. In 2007, he had two of the twelve highest Pennsylvania recoveries. In 2010, he had one of the top 35 Pennsylvania recoveries, and in 2011, he had two of the top 35 Pennsylvania settlements. Not only is this the tenth consecutive year that Rick has been selected to the Super Lawyer list, this is also the third year in a row that he has received the distinct honor of being selected as one of the top 100 lawyers in Philadelphia!



Michael Malvey handles a wide variety of cases within the personal injury department, including automobile accidents, premises liability, construction site accidents, products liability, and medical malpractice. Recently named as a Senior Partner with the firm, Michael has been a member of the team of Galfand Berger lawyers who have obtained over \$75 million dollars in settlements and judgments and attained some of the

largest, multi-million dollar client recoveries in Pennsylvania. Michael's proficiency in Spanish has been a great asset in representing members of the Hispanic and Latino communities. He currently works with the Board of Directors at Esperanza Immigration Legal Services to provide low-cost legal services to immigrants and their families in the Philadelphia area. This is Michael's seventh year selected to the list of *Pennsylvania Rising Stars*.



Peter Patton concentrates in the fields of products liability, construction and vehicular accidents. He was awarded the American Jurisprudence Award for Professional Responsibility from the University of California, Berkeley. Peter holds membership in the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum, Brain Injury Association, System Safety Society, Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations, the American Association

for Justice, the Pennsylvania Association for Justice, the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association, and the National Lawyers Guild. Peter has received an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating an attorney can achieve. Peter is also listed in the Bar Register of Pre-eminent lawyers and has been included in The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Pennsylvania. In 2011, Peter had one of the top 35 Pennsylvania settlements. This is Peter's second year to be named to the list of *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*.



Norman Weinstein is *Of Counsel* at Galfand Berger and chairs the firm's Community Outreach and Social Action program. He has practiced in Workers' Compensation and Personal Injury law for over 30 years. A Trustee of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, Norman is also past President of the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program (VIP), past Co-Chair of the Workers' Compensation Section of the Pennsylvania

Trial Lawyers Association and the Workers' Compensation Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association. He is past President of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and Council and Trustee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia as well as Chairman of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Young Leadership Council. Norman has performed pro bono work for the Support Center for Child Advocates, Legal Clinic for the Disabled and Philadelphia Volunteers of the Indigent Program (VIP). Norman is a recipient of the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association Community Service Award and has been recognized for his pro bono services by the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He is a recipient of the Philadelphia Bar Association Young Leadership Award and the Jewish Federation Myer Feinstein Young Leadership Award. Norman has been selected to the *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* list every year since 2005.



Henry Yampolsky practices in the areas of personal injury litigation, employment discrimination and labor law, and workers' compensation. Since joining our firm, Henry has been on the team of lawyers who have achieved some of the largest client recoveries in Pennsylvania. Henry is fluent in Russian and Ukrainian and takes an active role in the affairs of the Greater Philadelphia Russian-Speaking community. He serves as the Vice-

President and Member of the Board of Directors of the New World Association of Immigrants from Eastern Europe and is one of the founding directors of the Russian-Speaking Professionals Network. Additionally, Henry sits on the Board of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and was recently elected to the *Amicus Curiae* committee of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice. This is Henry's fourth consecutive year of inclusion in the *Pennsylvania Rising Stars* list.

Over \$2 Million Verdict for Shareholder Pushed-Out from Company he Started

Galfand Berger helps injured workers. However, we also help small business owners hurt through the bad deeds of business partners and colleagues. Recently, Arthur L. Bugay won a significant shareholder oppression case on behalf of our client.

Shareholder oppression occurs when the majority shareholders in a company take actions that unfairly prejudice the minority shareholders. That's what happened in the case Arthur handled. Our client, Marvin Roffman, co-founded Roffman Miller & Associates, Inc. ("RMA") in 1990. Mr. Roffman was initially president of the firm and chairman of the Board of Directors.

By 2007, however, RMA was governed by a majority of the shareholders who excluded Mr. Roffman from its management team, prevented him from being a client advisor, and denied him access to a large client.

Mr. Roffman filed a minority shareholder oppression lawsuit

alleging that RMA's management team effectively excluded Mr. Roffman from the company and devalued the stock he held. RMA offered to purchase Mr. Roffman's shares for \$1 million, an amount that was less than half of the amount which RMA had previously declared to be a "fair" price.

After Mr. Roffman commenced his minority shareholder oppression lawsuit, RMA counterclaimed, alleging a theft of trade secrets, which Mr. Roffman denied.

A month long arbitration resulted in an award of **over \$2 million** to Mr. Roffman. RMA's countersuit claims were dismissed.

For more information on this case or to discuss other business injury cases, call Arthur Bugay of Galfand Berger, LLP at **1-800-222-USWA (8792)** or contact the firm online at **mail@galfandberger.com** ■

Galfand Berger, LLP

1835 Market St., Suite 2710
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 665-1600
1-800-222-8792

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH PA
PERMIT NO 5450

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Galfand Berger Launches New Social Media Presence

This summer, Galfand Berger joined the world of social media by creating official pages on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Google+. We are very excited about the many new communication opportunities available to us and our clients because of this social media presence.

Through these social networking sites, clients and other followers will have quick and easy access to news and information shared by Galfand Berger. The interactive component of social media also allows followers to engage in conversation with the firm

through these new platforms.

We encourage our clients, supporters, and friends to connect with us by "liking" or "following" Galfand Berger on one or more of our social media pages. These official social media accounts deliver information on a regular basis regarding firm news and announcements as well as legal insight from our firm's personal injury attorneys.

If you want to stay up-to-date about your rights and how Galfand Berger can help, a great place to start is by following us here:



Facebook:
www.facebook.com/GalfandBerger



Twitter:
www.twitter.com/galfandberger



LinkedIn:
www.linkedin.com/company/Galfand-Berger-LLP/



YouTube:
www.youtube.com/galfandbergerllp