

Seventy Years On, and Still Fighting For Justice Every Day

It was 1947. A gallon of gas cost fifteen cents, mailing a letter set you back a nickel and a loaf of bread was a dime. The United States had fought and clawed its way out of the Depression and World War II, and the nation's booming manufacturing sector and military might had thrust the United States forward as the most powerful political and economic agent in the world.

And Galfand Berger opened its doors in Philadelphia, dedicated to protecting people whose legal rights had been violated.

Seventy years later, Galfand Berger's mission, and its dedication to the people of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware remains true. America has made great gains in bringing social and economic justice to many of its people, but the need to uphold the rights of all who strive to attain the American Dream is as powerful now as it was when Galfand Berger began its work.

In fact, at times the promise of a stable job and a slow but steady climb up the ladder into the middle class seems less sure today than it did for our parents, and their parents. The factory jobs that fed and clothed past generations of the middle class have grown increasingly scarce. Employer-paid benefits like health insurance and pensions have become the exception rather than the rule. Pay inequality across race and gender continue to burden millions of workers.

And the political might of big

corporations – and the many politicians today who claim to be looking out for working Americans, yet vote to help only the wealthiest among us – remains as powerful as ever.

But the right of all to seek legal redress,

compact between men.”

Galfand Berger is proud of the work it has done over the past seventy years. It has not been easy, or the most politically popular endeavor. But Galfand Berger's work has markedly improved the lives

of thousands and thousands of clients. Clients who have lost jobs due to an employer's unlawful conduct. Clients who have suffered grievous injury or death at work or at the hands of a careless physician. Clients who were wrongly denied disability or medical benefits. One at a time, thousands and thousands of people have come to Galfand Berger, seeking justice. And they have found it, with our help.

Galfand Berger. For us, it's not about

recognition. It's about upholding the promise of justice for this generation and the generations that follow. We were here seventy years ago. We are here today. And tomorrow, Galfand Berger will be here, still dedicated to justice and the American Dream.



The need to uphold the rights of all who strive to attain the American Dream is as powerful now as it was when Galfand Berger began its work

to right a legal wrong, endures today as it did for our grandparents' generation. While the actors and events that forge each generation change, the work toward justice remains. Two thousand years ago, a Roman philosopher wrote: "There is no such thing as justice in the abstract; it is merely a



Galfand Berger Attorneys Honored on the 2017 Super Lawyers List

Our firm is proud to announce that Arthur Bugay, Richard Jurewicz, Peter Patton and Norman Weinstein have all been named to the 2017 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers list. Attorney Michael Malvey was named to the 2017 Pennsylvania Rising Star List, an award that is unique to attorneys under the age of 40.

Each year our attorneys demonstrate their dedication to their practice areas and clients, as well as the needs of the surrounding community. You can learn more about these attorneys below.



Arthur Bugay's practice areas include personal injury, products' liability, negligent security and construction accident litigation. 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.



Peter Patton represents victims of malfunctioning products as well as people who have been in automobile and construction accidents. Peter has published articles in professional journals and texts. His cases have been the subject of some twenty published judicial opinions. He is active in the brain injury field and has developed experience in representing brain injury survivors.



Richard Jurewicz represents people injured by malfunctioning and defective equipment, tools and machinery. He is responsible for some of Galfand Berger's largest verdicts and settlements, earning more than \$185 million in recoveries. Rick has had numerous published opinions on the cases he has handled. He is the author of several articles on product liability, product safety and construction litigation and has lectured on such topics as products liability, construction litigation and hand injury cases.



Norman Weinstein is chair of Galfand Berger's Community Outreach and Social Action program and practices in the areas of workers' compensation as well as personal injury litigation. Norman has been recognized for his pro-bono work, having provided legal services to people through the Support Center for Child Advocates, Legal Clinic for the Disabled, and Philadelphia Volunteers of the Indigent Program (VIP).



Michael Malvey represents personal injury victims who have been hurt in construction, automobile, premises liability and other types of accidents. Proficient in Spanish, Mike sits on the Board of Directors at Esperanza Immigration Legal Services, which provides low-cost legal services to immigrants and their families.

Both the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers and Rising Stars awards are given after a vigorous selection process. Attorneys are selected through peer recommendation, professional achievement and third-party feedback. Each candidate is then further evaluated based on twelve indicators including verdicts and settlements, pro bono and community services, experience, special licenses and certifications and more. Only 2.5% of all Pennsylvania attorneys are selected for inclusion on the Rising Star list and a mere 5% for the Super Lawyer award.

Our attorneys are dedicated to representing the needs of their clients and to provide support to the community through pro bono services and outreach. If you have any questions or would like to reach one of our firm's Super Lawyers or Rising Stars, please do not hesitate to contact us online www.galfandberger.com or call **800-222-USWA (8792)**.



Victory for Injured Workers in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's workers' compensation law changed significantly last month. In the landmark case, *Protz v. Derry Area School District*, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court held a major section of workers' compensation law to be unconstitutional.

You may have heard of the "500 weeks" or "10 year" limit in workers' compensation cases. This time limit, imposed in 1996, limited workers' compensation payments to only 500 weeks if an evaluation deemed the injured worker only "partially" disabled. Under this provision, insurance companies could send injured workers to an Impairment Rating Evaluation (IRE). If the IRE determined that the impairment was less than 50%, then insurance companies would deem the person to be on "partial" disability instead of total disability and could stop paying benefits after 500 weeks expired.

In *Protz*, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court determined this section of the workers' compensation law as unconstitutional and struck it down. This decision may have a significant effect on your workers' compensation benefits depending on the status of your case:

- If you were scheduled to undergo the

IRE, you do not need to attend that appointment.

- If your benefits were modified to "partial disability" based on an IRE exam that determined that you were less than 50% disabled and you continue to receive partial disability benefits you must file a reinstatement petition to change your status to "total" disability.
- If the 500 weeks expired, you may be entitled to have your benefits reinstated.

If you or someone you know is on "partial" disability because of the IRE or they were on partial disability because of an IRE and their payments stopped, contact us immediately so that we may fight for the benefits you deserve!



Pennsylvania Supreme Court Holds That The Workers' Compensation Impairment Rating Evaluations Are Unconstitutional

With offices located in Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Reading and Lancaster, Galfand Berger represents clients throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. If you have questions about your workers' compensation benefits, especially in light of this recent court decision, please call our firm for a free consultation.

Cell Phone Technology Changing to Save Lives

Using your cell phone while driving, especially texting, is dangerous. A recent study showed that a person's reaction time is equally or more compromised when they text as it is when they drink.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nine people die each day in car accidents as a result of being distracted. In order to inhibit distracted driving, both iPhone and Android have come up with updates and applications that are meant to save people's lives by stopping them from using their phones behind the wheel.

For iPhone users, the upcoming iOS 11 system update will have a new feature that asks drivers to activate a "Do Not Disturb While Driving" mode. This mode does not allow notifications to appear. For drivers who do not activate the "Do Not Disturb While Driving" feature, the WiFi and GPS systems will recognize that the phone is in a moving vehicle and go into the mode automatically. Passengers in moving vehicles will be able to unlock their phones and use them.

For Android users, this feature is the "Drivemode:

Driving Interface" application. The app is available through the Verizon Message center and AT&T. Similarly to the iPhone system update, the application mutes all incoming notifications and sends calls directly to voicemail. If the driver receives a text, the app sends an automated busy-while-driving response. Drivemode also allows users to select music and control navigation hands-free.

The iPhone update will automatically take hold and help prohibit phone use while driving. Downloading the driving safety applications is currently voluntary for Android users. It is important that drivers understand the risk that they put themselves and others in by using their phones when behind the wheel. National educational campaigns aim to increase overall driver awareness and can be helpful in limiting accidents.

Distracted driving is a national epidemic that claims far too many lives. The deadly dangers that driving while distracted creates are preventable. Hopefully, the upcoming iPhone system update and free mobile application for Android users will help reduce the amount of distracted-driving related car crashes.



Galfand Berger's New Website

For the past year, Galfand Berger has been working to re-design its home on the Internet. As our project nears completion, we invite you to check out our new, easier-to-use site at www.galfandberger.com when it launches in September!

Features include:

- Detailed descriptions of Galfand Berger's many practice areas;
- Examples of client recoveries, which



continue to be among the highest in Pennsylvania;

- Expanded attorney biographies;

- Galfand Berger news, events and updates;
- Free legal resources, including our Auto Insurance and Workers' Compensation booklets;
- Easy ways to contact our firm, including online chat; and
- Compatible on all devices, including cell phones, iPads, notebooks, laptops and desktops.

Why not have Galfand Berger at your fingertips? Add our website to your favorites and our toll free phone number to your contacts: 1-800-222-8792

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Favorite Picnic Recipe

This is a delicious summer recipe, but really, we eat it all year. Cheryl Smith, a legal secretary at our firm, introduced us to her quick, easy, and delicious recipe. She made a big batch and shared some with us. Since then, when Cheryl tells us she is making chicken salad, we bring the crackers and call it lunch!

Cheryl's Chicken Salad

Ingredients

- Two split bone-in chicken breast
- ½ cup mayonnaise (or less if you like your chicken salad drier)
- 2 stalks celery (diced)
- 1 carrot (shredded)
- 2 Scallion stalks (chopped)
- Sprig of parsley (chopped)
- Salt and pepper to taste

How to Make

- Bake chicken breast. Let cool.
- Cube the chicken.
- Mix together the chicken, mayonnaise, carrot, parsley, celery, and scallions. Salt and pepper to taste.

