

## \$10.65 Million Dollar Recovery for Fatal Workplace Accident

Galfand Berger attorney Richard M. Jurewicz recently obtained one of the highest settlements in Pennsylvania history: \$10.65 million dollars for two workers injured in a catastrophic accident involving a sulfuric acid tank.

This horrific accident occurred when a maintenance worker fell while climbing down a ladder and landed on a pipe carrying sulfuric acid. The pipe broke and sprayed the maintenance man and his coworker with toxic sulfuric acid, causing burn injuries to both men.

Rick's settlement is not only significant because of its size but also noteworthy because of the innovative way Rick achieved this major outcome.

After the accident, OSHA investigated and decided that the injured workers' employer was at fault. OSHA found that the involved ladder was previously damaged in that one of its rungs was bent.

OSHA also decided that the employer had not provided the injured workers with necessary personal protective equipment and, further, had failed to repair the sulfuric acid tank gauge for over a year. The employer claimed the accident was the workers' fault because they weren't following job safety procedures.

In other words, OSHA blamed the employer for negligence and the employer blamed the injured workers for the terrible accident that occurred. If these versions of the accident were true, Rick's clients would not be able to collect damages for the horrible injuries they suffered.

Rick didn't accept OSHA's story about what happened and he didn't accept the employers' story either. Instead, Rick conducted his own thorough investigation and discovered that there were other causes for the accident that ruined the

lives of his clients and their families.

Rick learned that a contractor had been hired to install a new sulfuric acid tank a few months before the accident. He also learned that the tank was installed in violation of the manufacturer's instructions. He found that the contractor who installed the tank had no prior experience with sulfuric acid tank installations and didn't even know the industry rules. The discharge line was suppose to be supported and braced; however, the contractor and installer did not do what the manufacturer required.

Because of his aggressive investigation which left no stoned unturned, Rick was able to sue the tank manufacturer and two contractors for the improper sulfuric acid tank design and installation that contributed to the injuries of his clients. This compelling evidence led to Rick's extraordinary settlement prior to trial!

## Galfand Berger Lawyers: Proven Success In and Out of the Courtroom

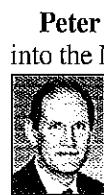
You likely know that Galfand Berger's attorneys excel in the courtroom, but did you also know might know that our attorneys shine outside the courtroom, too? We're proud of our team of attorneys whose recent accomplishments include not only recognition by peers but also admission into some of our nation's most exclusive professional organizations.

Galfand Berger recently named **Michael Malvey** as its newest partner.



This followed on the heels of Michael's recognition — for the second year in a row — as a 2007 Rising Star by *Law and Politics Magazine*. What makes Michael's "Rising Star" accomplishment

even more noteworthy is that *only 2.5% of attorneys practicing in Pennsylvania share this honor!*



**Peter Patton** was recently admitted into the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum. Membership in this organization is limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts, awards and settlements. Fewer than 1% of U.S. Lawyers are members.

Other Galfand Berger attorneys, including **Debra Jensen and Arthur**



**Bugay** became members of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. Like its sister organization, this honor is

limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements and includes some of the most prestigious trial lawyers in the United States.



Finally, Galfand Berger asks that you join us in welcoming our newest associ-



ate: **Heather A. Harper**. Heather graduated from Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law and works in our firm's personal injury and products liability departments. Welcome Heather!

GALFAND BERGER, LLP

1818 Market St., Suite 2300, Philadelphia, PA 19103-3648 Tel. (215) 665-1600 Toll Free 1-800-222-8792 www.galfandberger.com