

IN BRIEF

LAW NEWS YOU CAN USE

Spring 2012

Norman J. Weinstein Joins Galfand Berger

GALFAND BERGER, LLP is pleased to announce that Norman J. Weinstein has joined our firm.

With a fierce commitment to the principle of community service and over 30 years experience as an advocate for injured workers, Weinstein will lead Galfand Berger's Community Outreach and Social Action program, continuing his practice of fighting for people who have suffered injustices and injuries.

As Weinstein explains, "I was attracted to Galfand Berger for several reasons. It is a stalwart firm, founded more than 65 years ago on values that I embrace, including commitment to clients, commitment to community and commitment to the profession."

"The vast majority of my clients have been folks living on the margins and struggling day to day to provide for their families. Our job as lawyers is to protect those families and make sure a fair result is achieved. Galfand Berger and its experienced team of attorneys and staff will enable me to continue providing these results," Weinstein said.

Debra A. Jensen, Galfand Berger's Managing Partner, notes, "Our firm is excited to have Norman join us. Galfand Berger shares Norm's passion for the profession and the clients we serve. Norm's mission is our mission."

Weinstein, a Trustee of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, 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. Weinstein 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).

Honored by his peers and the organizations he serves, Weinstein 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 also been selected to the Pennsylvania *Super Lawyers* list every year since 2005. And, as a result of his AV-rating, Norman was recently listed in *Philadelphia's Top-Rated Lawyers*.

Founded in 1947, Galfand Berger champions the rights of individuals, consumers and injured workers with a single mission: to secure full and just compensation for our clients.

Drug Alert: Pradaxa and Zoloft

Every day thousands of people across America are prescribed drugs and

medical devices that have been approved for sale by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA). Most people believe that because these drugs and medical



must be safe. Unfortunately, this is not always the case.
All too often, people suffer injury, illness or even death as a result of drugs and medical products that were defectively designed, manufactured or

labeled before coming on to the market. Galfand Berger is currently investigating cases involving two drugs: Zoloft and Pradaxa. Zoloft may cause birth defects and Pradaxa may cause internal bleeding and heart attacks. Contact our firm at 1-800-222-8792 or visit our website at www.galfandberger.com to learn more.

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Your Rights to Auto Insurance Coverage When Hurt at Work

Galfand Berger recommends never waiving UIM/UM coverage! And, a recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision tells you why.

In a milestone case for workers injured on the job while driving a car, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that automobile insurers must pay Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist (UM/UIM) benefits to eligible individuals, even if they are receiving workers' compensation. Heller v. Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities 2011 Pa. LEXIS 2521 (2011).

In <u>Heller</u>, an on-duty police officer was hurt in an automobile accident. The injured officer recovered \$25,000 from the reckless driver who injured him (the maximum coverage under that driver's policy). The officer then notified his own insurer and his employer's carrier of a potential UIM claim.

The employer's auto insurance carrier denied the claim saying it was not required to provide coverage since the officer was collecting workers' compensation. The Supreme Court disagreed and ordered the insurance company to pay.

This case is an important reason why you should not waive UIM/UM coverage. In addition to the regular insurance we all have, car owners can buy two other kinds of insurance. One is called Underinsured Motorist Benefits (UIM) and the second is called Uninsured Motorist Benefits (UM). UIM benefits come into play when there is not enough insurance to cover a claim. UM benefits come into play in hit-and-run accidents or where a negligent driver has no insurance at all. By law, all automobile insurance policies must provide UIM and UM coverage unless a car owner signs a paper waiving these benefits.

For our clients, this case has a couple important messages. If you are hurt at work while driving a vehicle, collecting workers' compensation benefits will not stop you from also filing a UM/UIM claim. **This**

case also illustrates
that every driver
should carry Uninsured
and Underinsured
Motorist coverage.
Remember,
Uninsured
Motorist
coverage
protects you
and your family
if someone is hurt by
a careless driver who
has no insurance.
Underinsured

Motorist coverage

protects you and your family if a careless driver does not have enough insurance.

To learn more about workers'

compensation, email our firm for our free

To learn more about workers' compensation, email our firm for our free booklet: "Workers' Rights to Workers' Compensation." And, to learn more about auto insurance, email our firm for a free copy of our booklet: "Auto Insurance: Understanding Your Policy & Rights" at mail@galfandberger.com.

Galfand Berger's team of auto accident and workers' compensation lawyers helps our clients through the turmoil and confusion that follow a car accident or onthe-job injury. If you have been hurt and have questions, do not hesitate to call us for a free consultation at 1-800-222-8792 or by email at mail@galfandberger.com.

New Bethlehem-Allentown Area Office



Galfand Berger recently moved its Bethlehem-Allentown area office to a brand-new, state-of-the-art facility. This new office will allow us to better serve our expanding client base in the Bethlehem-Allentown region. Galfand Berger's new office is centrally located at:

3477 Corporate Parkway Suite 100 Center Valley, Pennsylvania 18034 1-800-222-8792 or 610-865-4212