Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP

Personal Injury • Construction Accidents
Medical Malpractice • Nursing Home Injuries
Construction Accidents

The personal injury law firm of Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP has always held a deep respect for the work ethic of construction workers and an admiration for the many risks of life and limb that they accept every day in order to get the job done. Our firm has always been a strong advocate of protecting and promoting laws that provide safer working conditions for New York’s construction workers, and offering the best legal representation available when a construction worker suffers serious injury or death on the job.

Through the years, our firm has won awards and settlements for many injured construction workers in New York. Those injuries have been wide-ranging, and have included brain injuries, back injuries, neck injuries, quadriplegia, paraplegia, amputation, disfigurement, emotional injury, and other significant disabilities. Those types of life-lasting injuries and illnesses aren’t adequately covered by New York’s workers’ compensation laws, and a worker has a right to have an experienced New York construction accident lawyer investigate an accident in an effort to understand every possible cause of his or her injury.

Accidents can happen anywhere and at any time on a construction site. Many of our past clients have suffered injuries in accidents resulting from:

- Falls from or through roofs of buildings
- Being run over and crushed by construction equipment
- Falls from structures other than roofs, such as scaffolding, ladders or windows
- Collisions with motor vehicles
- Mechanical defects in lifting and operational equipment
- Fires and explosions involving severe burns
- Trench collapses that bury workers in soil

Personal Injury

People who have suffered serious injuries as a result of an accident experience significant medical, financial and personal challenges. Knowing where to turn for legal help after an accident is critical.

In the New York metro area, you can find the quality legal representation you need at Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP. They offer experienced legal representation on behalf of injured clients in a wide range of personal injury claims, including:

- Motor vehicle accidents, including car accidents, truck accidents, motorcycle accidents, pedestrian accidents, bicycle accidents and other motor vehicle accidents.
- Premises liability, including slip-and-fall accidents, swimming pool accidents and other injuries sustained as a result of a property owner’s negligence.
- Construction accidents and other work-related accidents.
- Product liability, including claims resulting from defective auto parts and other dangerous or defective products.
- Nursing home negligence and abuse, including claims for bedsores injuries, slip-and-fall accidents, physical and sexual abuse, and other injuries sustained as a result of nursing home negligence or wrongdoing.
- Wrongful death claims.
- Child abuse and molestation.
- Municipal liability (government negligence).
- Other general negligence claims.

“When my husband died, the children and I were lost and confused. From the beginning, you made us feel there was hope. When the jury came into that courtroom, I felt no matter what the outcome, we had been heard. We were overwhelmed by the amount of the verdict.”
Medical Malpractice

The experienced attorneys of Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP are committed to helping people who have been injured due to the negligence of medical professionals. Medical malpractice cases are highly complex, but the firm’s attorneys have the experience, resources and commitment to protect your rights.

People place a tremendous amount of trust and reliance on doctors, nurses and other medical professionals. When medical professionals fail to act with a high degree of competence and care, their patients may suffer serious or fatal injuries.

If you or a loved one has been injured due to the negligence of a doctor, nurse or other medical professional, you have a right to be fully compensated for your injuries. The experienced attorneys at RGLZ represent clients throughout New York in a wide range of medical malpractice claims, including:

- Nurse and physician errors
- Surgical errors
- Hospital negligence
- Emergency room negligence
- Medication errors
- Birth delivery errors
- Failure to diagnose
- Anesthesiologist errors

Nursing Home Injuries

When we send our parents, siblings and other loved ones to nursing homes, we have a right to expect that they will be treated with kindness, dignity and respect. We have a right to assume that they will be looked after by dedicated professionals who provide a high level of care.

All too frequently, nursing homes prioritize profits over people, cut corners and emphasize cost-cutting measures that put patient safety at risk. Insufficient staff, improperly trained staff and other challenges created by cost restraints contribute to an unacceptably large number of nursing home accidents, injuries and deaths.

If your loved one has been injured in a nursing home, the attorneys at Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP are here to help. We represent clients throughout New York in a wide range of nursing home negligence and abuse claims, including:

- Bedsores
- Slip-and-fall accidents
- Dehydration and malnutrition
- Failure to properly monitor patients
- Physical abuse
- Sexual assault
- Medication errors and abuse

“When nobody believed me, you did. When the other lawyer told my parents to settle, you supported me and convinced them to fight. When we won, I cried. I will never forget you.”
Charles J. Rappaport founded what has grown to become Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP in 1968.

Mr. Rappaport was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York in 1964. He was awarded a Bachelor’s degree from New York University in 1960 and a Juris Doctor degree by the Fordham University School of Law in 1963.

Mr. Rappaport is admitted to practice in New York State and before the United States Circuit Court for the Second Circuit, the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. He has practiced law and tried cases in many state and federal jurisdictions, including courts in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland and Florida and has won many million- and multimillion-dollar verdicts, awards and settlements for his clients and has argued appeals in several of the Appellate Divisions in New York State as well as its highest court, the New York State Court of Appeals, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Mr. Rappaport is a member of the Suffolk County and New York State Bar Associations; the American Association for Justice; the New York Academy of Trial Lawyers; the Nassau/Suffolk Trial Lawyers Association; and the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, where he has served as a Director for more than twenty-five years. In 2006, he received the New York State Trial Lawyers Association’s Award of Honor for Civil Justice.

Michael G. Glass has been litigating personal injury and medical malpractice cases for more than 30 years. He has been involved in many cases resulting in million- and multimillion-dollar recoveries. Michael graduated magna cum laude from St. John’s University (which he attended on a sports scholarship) with a 3.989 average. He thereafter attended St. John’s University School of Law on a full academic scholarship. Michael graduated from St. John’s Law School third in his class. During that time, he served as an editor of the St. John’s Law Review, the school’s law journal, and received the New York State Trial Lawyers’ Louis Harolds Award for Excellence in the field of Tort Law. Michael has been a partner with RGLZ since 1988 and concentrates in the prosecution of complex personal injury and medical malpractice cases. He regularly lectures to other lawyers on a variety of personal injury topics for the various New York State bar associations. He has also published seminar pieces for the New York State Bar Association on trial-related subjects. He is a director of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. He was admitted to the bar in 1982 and is a member of the Suffolk County Bar Association, the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (where he serves as a director); the American Association for Justice, and the Nassau/Suffolk Trial Lawyers Association. He has been consistently listed as a “SuperLawyer” on the New York list for personal injury attorneys and has received the highest “AV” rating by Martindale-Hubbell.

“Everyone told me it was hopeless. You told me the only thing you could promise me was that I would get my day in Court. You kept your promise. God bless you for what you did for our family.”
Since 1968, the law firm of Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP has advocated passionately on behalf of thousands of injury victims and have a strong record of results, including numerous million- and multimillion-dollar verdicts and settlements.

While our experienced attorneys aggressively pursue maximum compensation for their clients, they are always mindful that quality legal representation is about more than just the final outcome. The priorities of Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP are simple:

- The client’s best interests always come first
- Every case is handled with meticulous care
- Strive for optimal results
- Personal service and responsiveness are key
- Clients deserve respect and should always be treated with dignity
- Clients have a right to a candid assessment of their case
- Care and compassion are guarantees
- Results are achieved through diligence, knowledge and preparation
- Every client who has been wronged deserves justice
- Every client deserves a dedicated advocate

Our team of experienced trial lawyers and staff are committed to your recovery. If you need a strong and compassionate advocate who will stand up to the insurance companies and vigorously pursue the full compensation you need and deserve, Rappaport, Glass, Levine & Zullo, LLP should be your firm of choice.

“Just wanted to thank you for all you’ve done and continue to do. I learned a lot watching you perform at trial. I feel satisfied and vindicated.”
Frequently Asked Questions

How long will my lawsuit last?
We process our client’s cases in the most expeditious manner possible. Even though we work to minimize delays, a lawsuit may be delayed for several years, because of court congestion and calendar delays. In the preliminary stages, we gather statements and medical records, we obtain accident reports and labor records, and we take photographs and perform other types of investigations. Furthermore, we develop and investigate civil theories of responsibility and third-party damages. Once the lawsuit formally begins, we exchange medical information, salary schedules from expert witnesses, and other documents with our adversaries. The injured plaintiff will then go for an exam, performed by a doctor contracted by our adversary. Each case is prepared as if it is going to be tried, as this has been proven time and again to be the best way of achieving the desired outcome.

Will my case be settled before trial?
A settlement can be realized in any stage of litigation. The majority of our cases are settled with insurance companies. We make every possible effort to negotiate and arrive at a reasonable settlement for our clients. In general, the insurance companies have little reason to arrive at an early settlement and, therefore, the resolution of the case generally occurs in the final stages of litigation. We keep you informed of any proposed settlement and the final decision to settle or go to trial belongs to you.

And if I have questions?
During the course of your case, there will be periods where your active participation will not be necessary. However, you can always ask how the litigation is proceeding.

Our lawyers and personnel will answer any question you may have by telephone, emails or in person. We will keep you informed of any important new developments in your case. We also need you to inform us of any important change in your medical condition, if you visit new doctors, the date you return to work, the names and addresses of witnesses, etc. This information will help us represent you in the best manner possible.

What will I have to do?
The best results are obtained through a collaborative effort between client and attorney. Your job is to recover from your injuries and keep us advised of your medical treatment and progress.

We want you to feel comfortable and secure while participating in your case. If it is necessary for you to testify at a deposition before the trial, we will prepare you in advance, and arrange a convenient schedule.

In every case requiring your testimony, our lawyers will get together with you beforehand in order to tell you exactly what to expect, how to conduct yourself, and how to respond to the questions in a direct and appropriate manner.

How does one manage the expenses related to the lawsuit?
The preparation and management of a lawsuit requires money to cover judicial and filing fees, investigation expenses, transportation costs, charges for reports and medical records, honorarium for expert witnesses, and other expenses. As a courtesy to our clients, and due to the fact that it may be difficult for some to cover these expenses, we cover these expenses in advance. These expenses are reimbursed to us at the conclusion of the case.

“Frankie can complete his education, I can give the girls a start in life and I can live my life with dignity and comfort. We are grateful for all those things, but most of all, for your kindness and caring.”
**Personal Injury**

**Settlement: $4,900,000**
Motorcyclist was injured when a car made a left turn in front of him.

**Jury Verdict: $4,800,000**
Flammable clothing caused burns to an 8-year-old whose older friends were playing with gasoline and matches.

**Settlement: $4,100,000**
A 6-year-old boy suffered bowel and spinal injuries in a head-on collision.

**Settlement: $2,400,000**
A police officer was struck by a car in the line of duty.

**Settlement: $2,385,000**
A motorcyclist became paraplegic in an accident with a van on the van’s side of the road. We proved that both drivers were at fault.

**Settlement: $2,100,000**
A bar continued to serve an obviously drunk patron who later crashed into our client’s car.

**Arbitration Award: $1,100,000**
After a minor car accident, a teenager developed reflex sympathetic dystrophy of her foot.

**Construction Accidents**

**Settlement: $4,770,000**
A highway construction worker sustained permanent injuries when a teenage driver lost control of her car and fishtailed over several lanes of traffic, skidding into the construction zone and then into the worker.

**Settlement: $4,500,000**
A construction worker fell from a roof at a Suffolk County job site, resulting in a 5” discrepancy between his injured and non-injured legs.

**Settlement: $3,050,000**
A construction worker was paralyzed while working at a Queens construction site when a roof collapsed, severing his spine.

**Settlement: $3,000,000**
A construction worker fell off a scaffold and badly fractured his heel, leading to a neurological condition called CRPS.

**Settlement: $1,750,000**
An experienced ironworker fell to his death from the 34th floor of a Manhattan skyscraper.

**Settlement: $1,750,000**
A union laborer was in the process of setting up scaffolding at the Brooklyn House of Detention and fell 15 feet when the surface he was standing on collapsed from underneath him.

**Medical Malpractice**

**Settlement: $25,000,000**
Doctors failed to notice that a 37-year-old woman was bleeding internally after a Cesarean section delivery, and she died as a result.

**Settlement: $20,000,000**
An infant became brain-damaged because doctors failed to perform a timely Cesarean section despite fetal asphyxia.

**Settlement: $9,500,000**
A young man died unnecessarily when a hospital emergency room and his private doctor failed to recognize his impending heart attack.

**Jury Verdict: $5,700,000**
A 37-year-old woman died due to her doctor’s failure to diagnose a cerebral aneurysm, leaving two children surviving.

**Settlement: $3,000,000**
Nurses and doctors at a Bronx hospital departed from accepted standards of care in delaying performance of a C-section, resulting in the birth of a brain-damaged baby boy.

**Settlement: $1,845,000**
A firefighter injured in a car accident died of a blood clot that should have been diagnosed and successfully treated.

**Settlement: $1,425,000**
Failed spinal surgery due to the doctors’ improper construction of surgical hardware, resulting in patient’s need for five additional surgeries.

**Nursing Home Injuries**

**Settlement: $600,000**
An elderly woman suffered severe bed sores. Discovery revealed that the nursing home altered the client’s chart after she was discharged from the facility.

**Settlement: $300,000**
An elderly man with Parkinson’s and difficulty swallowing was given cut-up meat when MDs had ordered “ground meat only” and he choked to death as a result.

**Settlement: $132,500**
After falling in a hospital and suffering from a broken hip, an 81-year-old man also suffered from dehydration at the nursing home in which he was recuperating.

**Settlement: $125,000**
The family of a 91-year-old woman received this settlement after an infection from a bedsore caused her death. The victim was recovering from a broken hip at a hospital.

“When our daughter died, we were devastated. Your kindness, understanding and support helped us through the most difficult time in our lives. For that, we are eternally grateful.”
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