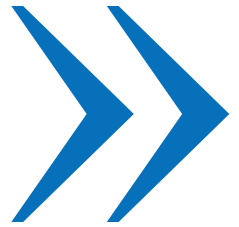


MARTIN_{LAW}

Working for people who can't.



» Workers' Compensation » Social Security Disability » Long-Term Disability » Veterans' Benefits



Pictured (L-R) are the six Martin attorneys, Amit Shah, John Dogum, Al Carlson, George Martin, Joe Huttemann and Joe Conlan, who are now certified in the practice of workers' compensation.*

Workers' Compensation Law Certified Specialist



Matthew Wilson, Member of the certification committee

OUR ATTORNEYS

- » George Martin
- » Matthew L. Wilson
- » Joseph C. Huttemann
- » Alfred J. Carlson
- » John P. Dogum
- » Leah Cilo
- » Amit J. Shah
- » Joseph A. Conlan
- » Joseph D. Capitan
- » Lisa D. Eldridge
- » Maria E. Bermudez
- » Frank J. Udinson
- » Elise L. Bradley
- » Shuaiyb Newton

Is your attorney certified in workers' compensation?

SINCE 2009, PARTNER MATT WILSON HAS been on the committee to implement a workers' compensation certification program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He helped prepare the test, and reports that the committee's fine-tuning of the testing and certification process was rigorous and ongoing. "I worked with Judge [David B.] Torrey in the development of the exam and I have actually taken it three times." Wilson said. He continues to be an active member of the committee reviewing exams.

The certification process requires that attorneys sit for a four-hour exam after proving that they have actively practiced law for more than five years and dedicate at least half of their practice to workers' compensation claims. The exam is meant to recognize attorneys in the specialty of workers' compensation and allow them

to stand out from attorneys who dedicate just a small percentage of their practice to workers' compensation.

SO WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?

This certification ensures that any Pennsylvanian can confidently choose an attorney who has proven through rigorous testing that they are among the most qualified in the state to handle your claim. **Martin Law has THE most credentialed attorneys in one firm in the state with 6 attorneys who are certified as a specialist in the practice of workers' compensation law** by the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Section on Workers' Compensation Law as authorized by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Tune in to CBS 3's Talk Philly on September 25 at 12 noon for a live discussion with Matt Wilson!

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PAWORKINJURY.com

RECENT SETTLEMENTS:

Below is a sample of recent settlements and recoveries we've helped to obtain for our clients.

Please keep in mind that each case is different and these results are not necessarily indicative of the results in your case.

\$680,000 AWARDED to a retail manager after severe lower back injury

\$275,000 AWARDED to a truck driver with cervical discogenic disease

\$200,000 AWARDED to an avionics technician with a torn left meniscus

\$175,000 AWARDED to an OR nurse with multiple injuries from a slip and fall

\$197,500 AWARDED to an excavating vehicle operator with a leg fracture

\$205,000 AWARDED to a textile worker diagnosed with "brown lung disease"

\$323,000 AWARDED to a truck driver with multiple lumbar compression fractures

\$262,500 AWARDED to a union carpenter with cervical radiculopathy

\$300,000 AWARDED to a concrete worker with burns on the hands and face

\$310,000 AWARDED to a manufacturing worker with repetitive trauma to the hands

\$325,000 AWARDED to a welder with a femur fracture

\$248,000 AWARDED to a union laborer with a right knee meniscus tear

COURT SAYS FEDEX DRIVERS ARE EMPLOYEES, NOT INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

SOURCE: MSNBC.COM

By claiming its drivers aren't employees, FedEx has been able to avoid paying overtime, providing leave to care for ailing family members, or contributing to Social Security, Medicare, or unemployment insurance — all that stuff employers are required by law to provide anyone on the payroll. During the past decade, this arms-length arrangement was challenged repeatedly by drivers in about 40 state courts, and eventually many of these cases were consolidated into three federal class actions. The two new decisions — one covering the California class, the other covering two Oregon classes — were handed down by San Francisco's 9th Circuit, and they constitute the first-ever victories for FedEx drivers at the federal appellate level.

FedEx will likely appeal the 9th Circuit decisions to the Supreme Court. But it may face some difficulty in doing so, because — even though made at the federal level — the two decisions concern matters of state law rather than federal. Their reach is similarly limited; they apply only to FedEx drivers in California and Oregon. ***But there's a decent chance the 9th Circuit's decisions will influence future decisions in other jurisdictions.*** At the very least, they are shining more light on corporations' reluctance to take responsibility for the people who represent them most directly to the public.

» If you have any questions please call our experienced attorneys for a free, no obligation consultation by calling 215-587-8400.



WORKPLACE SAFETY

THIS IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES ABOUT WORKPLACE SAFETY.

In June we started our own safety campaign in line with the National Safety Council's National Safety Month. The 2014 National Safety Month theme, "Safety: It takes all of us," was inspired by the idea of continuous risk reduction — a key pillar in the Journey to Safety Excellence. A successful safety program depends on spotting hazards early, evaluating their risk and removing or controlling them before harm is done.

National Safety Month may be over but it is always a good time to find creative ways to engage everyone in reducing risk in your workplaces. A little effort today has the potential to prevent tragedy tomorrow.

Here are just a few ways for anyone to make a workplace safer, from the largest of construction companies to independent and sub-contractors:

1. Have a written workplace accident and safety awareness plan. It goes without being said that there are dangerous elements to construction,

however, you cannot assume that everyone understands safety risks and procedures. The simple act of creating a document of hazards and safety procedures is a big step in the right direction.

2. Hold regular meetings with staff, supervisors and contractors, even once per year. Remind them of their role in maintaining a safe site and protecting themselves from harm, the tools or methods they can use to reduce risk and reinforce the importance of using them.
3. Start an equipment log. Keeping a diary noting your purchase, regular inspection and maintenance of site machinery and tools lessens the risk of accidents due to faulty equipment.
4. Discipline those who do not follow safety procedure or neglect to wear or use the right equipment. Not doing so can result in fines against your company or, worse, an injured worker.

All of us at Martin Law are advocates for safer work environments and the protection of employees and employers alike from accidents.



Follow us Facebook for weekly safety tips to keep those wheels turning on safety prevention in the workplace.

» If you have any questions please call our experienced attorneys for a free, no obligation consultation by calling 215-587-8400.

IMPORTANT: IS YOUR EMPLOYER INSURED?

Employers are required to carry workers' compensation insurance to provide wage replacement and medical coverage when workers are injured on the job, but employers do not always follow the law. Without workers' compensation benefits, injured employees may not have options for financial support and medical care while they recover. The Pennsylvania Uninsured Employer Guaranty Fund (UEGF) was supposed to solve this serious problem.

In 2006, Pennsylvania lawmakers passed Act 147, which created UEGF to be a safety net for injured workers. When an employee was injured on the job of an employer who did not carry workers' compensation, the fund would pay wage losses and help cover medical expenses. But the law has flaws that make it difficult to obtain benefits.

The UEGF does not have enough funding, because lawmakers have not created a dedicated funding source for it. As a result, the fund says it does not

have enough money to pay its debts. Additionally, the UEGF can delay payments because workers' compensation judges do not have the power to assess penalties or attorneys fees against it.

IDENTIFYING AN UNINSURED EMPLOYER

Your employer may be uninsured if you don't pay taxes out of your check or if you are paid in cash or "under the table." Somewhere in your employers offices there should also be posted statements like those pictured. If you think you work for an uninsured employer start requesting a check from them rather than cash and be sure to deposit that check in a bank or keep records if using a check cashing service. This will help to make proving you work for the employer a little bit easier should you become injured on the job.

» *If you have any questions please call our experienced attorneys for a free, no obligation consultation by calling 215-587-8400.*

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

At Martin Law, community support is one of our core values. In 2014, the firm continues an initiative that began last year, "Martin LLC Gives Back," where each month we choose a different community organization to support through various donations and volunteering.



» In April, the firm supported the March of Dimes and put together a team of 22 people for the "Walk for Babies" on April 27, 2014. **The team raised an awesome \$1,276 for the organization.** This has been our most successful effort to date and we hope that we can keep raising the bar!

MEET THE INTAKE TEAM!

Martin Law employs a four-person intake team to ensure we get all of a potential clients case details so they can schedule your initial free consultation with one of our attorneys. When you consider hiring our firm these are among the first people you talk to when contacting the firm. These four people are solely dedicated to this position but there are a number of people on the staff trained to assist in this initial process as well.

intake and referral manager **MINDA RIENTE-JAMES** has been with the firm since 2002 and lives with her husband and mastiff in Chadds Ford, PA. Minda handles all referrals to other attorneys as well as completing and managing the intake process and team.

intake specialist **ANGELICA SERRANO** has been with the firm since 2007 and lives with her husband and two kids in Northern Liberties.

intake specialist **JENNIFER PROSTOCK** has been with the firm since 2010 and lives with her husband, kids and cat in Norristown.

intake specialist **WILGAR GARAYUA-RIVERA** has been with the firm since 2014 and lives with his wife and newborn son in North Philly.



PICTURED L-R: Wil Garayua-Rivera, Minda Riente-James, Jennifer Prostock and Angie Serrano.

WORKERS' COMP TEAMS

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- 2014 Super Lawyers P.4

#WOGLRadiothon

Martin Law was a proud sponsor of the WOGL Radiothon in support of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. You can also make a donation by going to: <http://cbsloc.al/17PdcOg>

Pictured below John Dogum delivered a check live on-air on September 4.



8 MARTIN LAW ATTORNEYS SELECTED...



Super Lawyers

RISING STARS 2014

- » 5 Martin attorneys selected to the *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers 2014* list
- » 3 Martin attorneys selected to the *Pennsylvania Rising Stars 2014* list
- » 2 Martin attorneys selected to the *Top 100 Philadelphia 2014* list
- » 2 Martin attorneys selected to the *Top 100 Pennsylvania 2014* list

Pictured (L-R):

Al Carlson^{†‡§}, John Dogum^{**}, George Martin^{†‡§}, Matt Wilson^{**§}, Joseph Huttemann^{**}, Amit Shah^{*}, Maria Bermudez^{*} and Joseph Capitan^{*}.

* Selected to 2014 *Pennsylvania Rising Stars*
** Selected to 2014 *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*
† *Top 100 Philadelphia* ‡ *Top 100 Pennsylvania*
§ 10 or More Years Listed

* Super Lawyers selects attorneys using a rigorous, multiphase process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with third party research. Each candidate is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis.

The Super Lawyers selection process involves three basic steps: creation of the candidate pool, evaluation of candidates by the research department, and peer evaluation by practice area. The final published list represents no more than 5 percent of the lawyers in the state.

† The selection process for Rising Stars is the same as the Super Lawyers selection process except that: 1) a candidate must be either 40 years old or younger or in practice for ten years or less 2) Candidates do not go through peer evaluation by practice area; no more than 2.5 percent are named to the Rising Stars list.