



MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
TRIAL ATTORNEYS

**Joseph L. Messa, Jr. Named Top 100 Trial Lawyer
for Pennsylvania**



Joseph L. Messa, Jr., founding attorney of Messa & Associates, P.C., has been named a Top 100 Trial Lawyer for the state of Pennsylvania by *The National Trial Lawyers*.

Mr. Messa is an AV-rated lawyer listed in *The Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*, a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum and an American Bar Foundation fellow. He serves as a Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association officer, and has successfully obtained dozens of multimillion-dollar medical malpractice and products liability recoveries. In addition, Mr. Messa has been recognized as a Pennsylvania *Super Lawyer* in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The National Trial Lawyers is a national organization composed of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers from each state. Membership is obtained through special invitation and is extended only to those attorneys who exemplify superior qualifications, leadership, reputation, influence, stature, and profile as trial lawyers, both civil plaintiff and criminal defense.

Recent Verdicts and Settlements

Estate of Hyseem Jacobs v. HUP, et al.

\$2.154 Million unanimous jury verdict confirmed with the issuance of an Order denying the Motion for Post Trial Relief which included a request for a new trial and granting the Plaintiffs' Motion for Delay Damages bringing the total damages awarded to the family of Hyseem Jacobs to **\$2.297 Million** against Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and attending ob/gyn Peter Chen, M.D.

In February, the jury found that the Defendants were negligent in failing to timely perform a Cesarean section delivery of the baby before brain injury occurred. The child sustained a 15 to 20 minute period of severe oxygen deprivation just before delivery, secondary to placental abruption, while under the care of Dr. Chen and HUP. As a result of the brain damage, Hyseem Jacobs was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, and was severely disabled. He died as a result of complications of cerebral palsy at 17 months old.

**We Never Forget that
Behind Every Case,
are Real People**

Joseph L. Messa, Jr.
Richard J. Heleniak
Irene M. McLafferty
Eric H. Weitz
Lee D. Rosenfeld
A. Christine Giordano, R.N.
Thomas N. Sweeney
Noelle L. Palazzo
Joanna B. Seidman
Anastasia M. Buccino-Roth

Of Counsel

Steven Friedman, M.D.
Vincent DiCioccio,
B.S.C.E., M.S.C.E.
Andrew D. Swain
Richard Schwartz
Brian Kelly
Tom Margiotti

MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Trial Attorneys

Messa & Associates, P.C.

123 S. 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 • 877-MessaLaw • 215-568-3500
2091 Springdale Road, Suite 2, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 • 856-810-9500
www.MessaLaw.com • MessaLaw.com/Blog • GHightower@MessaLaw.com

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

This month is **National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among women in the United States (aside from skin cancer) and the second leading cause of death in women. Breast cancer is a malignant tumor that grows in one or both of the breasts.

While there is no way to prevent breast cancer, there are things that can be done to reduce risk factors. Women who limit alcohol intake, exercise regularly, and maintain a healthy body weight have a lower risk of getting breast cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, high risk women are those who have a known BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation, have a first-degree relative (parent, brother, sister, or child) with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation, but have not had genetic testing themselves, had radiation therapy to the chest when they were between the ages of 10 and 30 years and have Li-Fraumeni syndrome, Cowden syndrome, or Bannayan-Riley-Ruvalcaba syndrome, or have first-degree relatives with one of these syndromes.

In addition to risk factors, early detection is important for an increased chance that treatment will be effective. Breast cancer can be detected through self and clinical examinations, mammograms and Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) testing. Women should consult with their physician and decide which method is best for them based on their personal risk factors. If you are unsure about your personal risk factors or are concerned about something you discovered while self-examining your breast, please see your doctor immediately.

Messa & Associates has been involved in numerous cases involving delay in and failure to diagnose cancer including breast cancer because of a medical professionals' failure to detect by mammogram, failing to recognize symptoms or failure to follow up on family history or a lump. Our attorneys have obtained fair verdicts and settlements for our clients and will fight to ensure clients get the compensation they deserve for injury, trauma, loss, suffering and any ongoing needs that may result. For more information on **National Breast Cancer Awareness Month** or if you or a loved one has suffered serious injury or death as a result of the delay or misdiagnosis of breast or any other type of cancer, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

ON THE BALLOT...



Messa & Associates Attorney **Eric H. Weitz** Weitz has announced his candidacy for the Philadelphia Bar Association's Board of Governors. Elections will be held **Dec. 6**.

Messa & Associates, P.C. proudly supports Judge David N. Wecht for Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge. Judge Wecht currently serves as Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas judge. Election Day is **Tuesday, Nov. 8**.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Happy Halloween from Messa & Associates!

Trick or Treat: Safety Tips

1. Never let your child Trick or Treat alone
2. Walk on the sidewalk
3. Only approach homes with a light on
4. Carry a flashlight
5. Be sure your child's costume is flame resistant
6. Use reflective tape on dark costumes
7. Check any treats before your child eats them
8. Do not cut across driveways

"We know you want and *deserve* the best when it comes to representation. At Messa & Associates, we strive for nothing short of perfection."

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For more information, please call 877-MessaLaw or email GHightower@MessaLaw.com