Dog Attack Results in $375,000 Award

Marasco & Nesselbush partner Joe Marasco and Associate Attorney Jane Duket obtained an exceptional $375,000 settlement for a client who was attacked by a vicious dog, amputating a portion of her right index finger.

Marasco & Nesselbush brought suit against both the dog owner and the owner of the property where the attack occurred. Initially, the landlord’s insurance company denied liability and refused to compensate our client. He alleged that he was unaware of the dog’s dangerous propensities which is a necessary legal requisite when a dog bite occurs within a dog’s enclosure. After an extensive and focused investigation, we were able to establish that the landlord did, in fact, know that the dog was dangerous. Specifically, Joe and Jane produced documentation showing the landlord’s knowledge of a previous attack by this same dog several weeks earlier.

Shortly after Marasco & Nesselbush made this revelation and instituted suit, the insurance company capitulated and agreed to mediation. Our skilled attorneys’ attentiveness, legal research and thorough investigation of the case resulted in an extraordinary resolution ($375,000) for our client, without the time, expense, and uncertainty of trial.

Serving Those Who Serve

Jonathan” decided he wanted to be in the Army after watching the 9/11 bombings on television from his second grade classroom. He was 8 years old. When we met Jonathan he was 20 years old, had served in Afghanistan for several years and was returning home with combat related post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI). Jonathan’s injuries required over one year of intensive inpatient care at a specialized medical unit far from his home state. He had applied for Social Security disability benefits confident that the Social Security Administration would recognize his injuries and honor his service. Instead, he waited six long months only to have the SSA deny him benefits.

As soon as we heard Jonathan’s story and gained an understanding of his medical condition, we got to work! Close to 90% of all claims denied at the first (“initial”) level receive a denial at the second (“reconsideration”) level. If an application is denied at the reconsideration level, Social Security applicants wait close to one year for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. We were determined to beat the odds for Jonathan by winning his case at reconsideration.

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DAN JACKSON as Our New Chief Operating Officer

“Attitudes are contagious – is yours worth catching?”

MARK GRIFFIN
7th Anniversary Celebration

During our recent staff appreciation breakfast we celebrated the 7th anniversary of Attorney Mark Grimm joining our firm. Mark is Marasco and Nesselbush’s senior litigation counsel and leads our complex litigation and medical malpractice group. Mark is a graduate of Brown University and Boston College School of Law. He has served as an adjunct professor at Roger Williams University School of Law and is a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum in recognition of receiving jury awards and settlements in excess of one million dollars. Mark is also an accomplished rock musician and an original member of the acclaimed band the “Schemers”.

BRIANNE NOLETTE Honored as Employee of the Year

In an effort to recognize, reward and promote truly extraordinary client service, Marasco & Nesselbush launched a “Client Service Initiative” in the fall of 2011. The goal of the initiative (internally known as “CSI”) is to continually ensure that every client is treated with the utmost respect, dignity and care with the ultimate goal of obtaining extraordinary results for each client.

“The CSI program demonstrates and promotes our continued commitment to excellence and outstanding legal results,” said firm partner Joe Marasco.

Since CSI’s inception, employees have been recognized for their hard work, exemplary client care, innovative ideas to improve client service, and participation in community activities. Partners, attorneys and managers recognize and reward team members for outstanding performance.

Brianne Nolette began working with Marasco & Nesselbush in early 2012 as a Hearing Assistant. She was quickly promoted to Team Leader of the Hearing Department. More recently, Brianne was promoted to Team Leader of the entire Social Security Department support staff. During her tenure at Marasco & Nesselbush, Brianne has demonstrated the traits that exemplify the mission of Marasco & Nesselbush, as established by Joe and Donna 15 years ago.

“Brianne’s talent, work ethic, compassion and leadership skills are traits that make us proud to name her Employee of the Year for 2014. She leads with a smile and an infectious optimism that is consistent with our goals of achieving world class legal service in an outstanding work environment.” stated firm partner Donna Nesselbush.

Our seasoned attorneys examined Jonathan’s application and recognized he could be entitled to additional benefits based on his injuries. We have a cadre of medical experts who help us evaluate cases, so we arranged an immediate examination with a psychologist experienced in the area of combat related mental injuries. The doctor conducted a thorough evaluation and addressed the additional issue of substance abuse in the context of service connected emotional impairments. Thanks to our doctor’s expert report and the opinions of Jonathan’s VA mental health providers, Social Security reversed course and approved his application at the reconsideration level. Instead of having to endure the agony of an additional denial and the delays and rigors of a hearing, Jonathan is now living independently, focusing on his health and providing for his family. Jonathan bravely served our country, and it was our privilege to serve him. To Jonathan and all members of our armed forces: Thank you for your service.
"In the Name of Love," Marasco & Nesselbush invites you to celebrate Valentine's Day 2015...! Join us on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the main office of Marasco & Nesselbush, 685 Westminister Street, Providence from 11:00 am-2:00 pm for free prizes, fun, learning and prevention all...In the Name of Love! Members of Crossfit Providence will also be partnering with Marasco & Nesselbush, celebrating American Heart Month in the name of love at their Washington Street location from 9:00-1:00 pm. A portion of the proceeds from the Crossfit event will benefit the American Heart Association.

In the Name of Love, Marasco & Nesselbush will give away chocolate hearts to the first 50 guests at the M&N office location. We have also invited Paws, the mascot of the Pawtucket Red Sox to be on hand to give heart shaped balloons to children. There will be many chances to win an iPad, gift certificates to a supermarket, yoga classes and other attractions.

Marasco & Nesselbush is celebrating American Heart Month with the American Heart Association to showcase the many lifestyle changes that can keep adults and children “heart-healthy.” Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women; however, it is preventable and controllable. The American Heart Association (AHA) will demonstrate “CPR Anytime,” an innovative approach to teaching the basics of CPR so anyone can perform chest compressions during a cardiac emergency. The American Heart Association will highlight “Life’s Simple 7,” the 7 simple steps that lead to a long, healthy life—eat better, get active, lose weight, control cholesterol, manage blood pressure, reduce blood sugar, and stop smoking. Tips for healthy eating and yoga practice demonstrations will provide participants with practical activities that lead to healthy living. Refreshments will be provided.

Radio Station WKKB-FM Latina 100.3 will be broadcasting live from the Marasco & Nesselbush offices, so come meet DJ Gato and give a live on-the-air “shout out” of Valentine's Day love to your family and friends. In the Name of Love, we welcome everyone to our offices to celebrate Valentine's Day, get your free chocolate heart as well as a chance to win big prizes, all while learning the simple things we can do to live long, healthy and happy lives.

In the Name of Love...Saturday, February 7, 2015, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm at the main office of Marasco & Nesselbush, 685 Westminster Street, Providence, RI and at Crossfit Providence, 425 Washington Street from 9:00 -11:00 am. Feel free to call 401.274.7400 for directions.
Please be sure to visit Marasco And Nesselbush!

Thank You
For Your Kind Referrals and Friendship

Over the past three years more than 2000 new clients have been referred to us by our many loyal clients. We appreciate your many kind referrals of family members and friends as it lets us know that we are providing great legal care and have earned your trust and confidence. To those who have referred clients to us we say...Thank You.

This winter as the weather gets colder we are offering a small token of our immense appreciation. Please contact us or stop by the Providence office to get a warm and comfortable navy blue fleece ear warmer complete with a proudly and tastefully displayed M&N logo.

Come Celebrate VALENTINE’S DAY 2015
Saturday • February 7
In the Name of Love
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the main office of Marasco & Nesselbush
685 Westminster Street, Providence, RI
Feel free to call 401.274.7400 for directions.