



New England's Trusted Personal Injury & Social Security Disability Law Firm

#### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Personal Injury Law:

- Auto Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Motorcycle Accidents
- · Wrongful Death
- Uninsured Motorist
- Premises Liability
- Alcohol Related Accidents

Social Security Disability Law:

- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Workers' Compensation Law

#### SEVEN CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

PROVIDENCE, RI: (401) 274-7400 685 Westminster Street

WAKEFIELD, RI: (401) 783-0000 231 Old Tower Hill Road, Suite 206

WARWICK, RI: (401) 738-7700 51 Jefferson Boulevard, 3rd floor

WOONSOCKET, RI: (401) 762-9800 603 Park Avenue

LAWRENCE, MA: (978) 988-8800 439 South Union Street, Suite #B-11A

QUINCY, MA: (617) 773-8700 20 Whitney Road

NEW LONDON, CT: (860) 443-7734 21 Montauk Avenue, Suite #G04

Free Parking, Easy Access

#### **ATTORNEYS**

Joseph P. Marasco Donna M. Nesselbush

Mariam A. Lavoie
Mark H. Grimm
Jennifer L. Belanger
A. Chace Wessling
Timothy P. Lynch
Jane R. Duket
Anthony S. Buglio
Amanda Briggs
Philip M. Weinstein, *Of Counsel* 

This newsletter is intended for current and former clients of Marasco & Nesselbush.

We thank you for your many kind referrals, and for placing your trust and confidence in our firm.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

Referral from Friend and Attorney Leads to Favorable Social Security Disability Ruling

arry McDonough of Cranston, RI suffered a serious workplace injury years ago that resulted in a broken ankle and a fractured back. The injury triggered years of medical treatment and lingering pain that ultimately led Garry to apply for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits. Like many who seek to navigate the complicated SSDI system on their own, Garry's request for benefits was denied. His appeal was also rejected.

Frustrated, Garry turned to his best friend, a former high school classmate who practices law in Rhode Island.

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We extend our heartfelt thanks to our many current and former clients, friends of the firm, fellow attorneys, doctors and other healthcare professionals who continue to refer their friends, family members, clients and patients to Marasco & Nesselbush for legal representation. We consider referrals to be the highest compliment.

If you have referred a family member, friend, client or patient to us in the past, please contact us so that we may extend to you a small token of our immense gratitude.

# **Event Showcases Marasco & Nesselbush's Community Engagement**

arasco & Nesselbush has earned its reputation as New England's trusted Personal Injury and Social Security Disability law firm thanks to the firm's team of dedicated legal professionals. The firm has also earned a reputation as a valued partner to many community organizations who represent patients with chronic diseases.

The firm's deep community engagement was showcased recently by Marasco & Nesselbush's sponsorship of the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation's

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This proud team of

Marasco & Nesselbush walkers helped

make the recent

Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation Flames of Hope Walk a big success!





JOSEPH P. MARASCO Named Secretary / Treasurer of the Rhode Island Association for Justice

n September 2015, Partner Joseph P. Marasco was named Secretary and Treasurer of the Rhode Island Association for Justice (RIAJ). As Secretary and Treasurer, Marasco is

one of four officers for the organization and is expected to become its President in 2017.

Marasco was first appointed to the Association's Board of Governors in 2010. "It's been a privilege over the past five years to work with leaders of the legal community on behalf of the Rhode Island Association for Justice in our collective effort to promote a fair, civil justice system," said Marasco.

The RIAJ works against powerful industry lobbyists who would like to limit the access of injured parties to the courts. RIAJ also seeks to educate the public, as well as governmental decision-makers, on these matters. Another goal of the organization is to improve the practice of law by furthering the education and training of Rhode Island trial lawyers. Marasco said he feels privileged to be a leader in an organization dedicated to ensuring an even playing field for often disadvantaged plaintiffs seeking justice against powerful insurance, government or corporate interests.

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annual Flames of Hope: A Celebration of Life. The annual weekend series of events provides education, exhibits, interactive health screenings, and healing arts activities, and culminates with the Illuminations of Life Ceremony, in which breast cancer survivors and loved ones carry torches in memory of those who have lost their battles to breast cancer, and to light the way for those who have yet to begin their journeys.

Marasco & Nesselbush Partner and State Senator Donna Nesselbush helped kick off the firm's support of the Flames of Hope events with remarks at the Foundation's Pink Tea event at the Rhode Island State House. Nesselbush applauded the Foundation for its important work in supporting breast cancer survivors and families impacted by breast cancer over the past decade.

"We are so grateful to Marasco & Nesselbush for your passion and support. It excites us to have true "partners" that "get it" and you all do. From the bottom of my heart, thank you! We look forward to a long lasting relationship with Marasco & Nesselbush."

~ Maria Gemma, Executive Director, Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation

Marasco & Nesselbush also staffed an information table at the Flames of Hope Passport to Survivorship and Wellness Expo to offer information and answer questions about the legal implications of cancer.

# "Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts."

Winston Churchill

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Garry's friend doesn't practice Social Security Disability law so he referred Garry to a firm he was confident could provide Garry with the legal representation he needed. That recommendation brought Garry to Marasco & Nesselbush. Several members of the Marasco & Nesselbush team assisted Garry with his case, including Mariam Lavoie, a long time attorney for the firm and a veteran of challenging SSDI cases. Lavoie has developed a reputation for winning some of the toughest Social Security Disability cases in the region, a record built on her deep knowledge of the intricacies of Social Security Disability law.

While her tenacity and legal acumen helped to ultimately win SSDI benefits for Garry McDonough on

a subsequent appeal, it was her "can do" attitude that stands out most in McDonough's mind.

"About three months ago on a Sunday I get a call from my attorney, Mariam Lavoie. Most people are at the beach or having a barbecue and she's calling me about my case," said McDonough. "We talked about a half hour and she asked me



Mariam A. Lavoie, Esq.

some detailed questions about my ongoing health issues. She actually called back a short while later with a few more questions. I couldn't have been more impressed. I hung up the phone and told my wife, 'That was my lawyer on a Sunday. I think I am going to win this case!"

McDonough's confidence in the outcome of his appeal was well founded. Marasco & Nesselbush's Mariam Lavoie successfully appealed McDonough's earlier denials by the Social Security Administration, earning him retroactive benefits for a six-year period.

Partner Donna M. Nesselbush applauded Lavoie for the victory she secured on behalf of the client. "Mariam is an incredibly dedicated, poised and skilled attorney," said Nesselbush. "We are proud of her grit and determination that won benefits for Garry and grateful for her contributions in building our firm's stellar reputation as the region's leading Social Security Disability law firm."

McDonough was grateful for Lavoie's work on his behalf. He was also grateful to his best friend, the attorney who recommended that Garry turn to Marasco & Nesselbush for help.

# ATTORNEY JANE DUKET

## Honored as Employee of the Quarter

arasco & Nesselbush is proud to recognize an employee of the quarter whose work reflects the firm's reputation for outstanding client satisfaction and exceptional legal service. Jane R. Duket, an associate attorney with Marasco & Nesselbush, earns this distinction for the third quarter of 2015. Attorney Duket has devoted her legal career to representing medical malpractice

victims and personal injury clients. As a dedicated advocate for the rights of the injured, Attorney Duket works tirelessly to deliver world class legal care.

"Growing up, I was always taught to fight for those who may be unable to fight for themselves. For me, that is the meaning of justice and why I chose to practice law at Marasco & Nesselbush," said Duket.



Before going to law school, Attorney Duket, a native of Newton, Massachusetts, worked as a child advocate in the Boston area, and in the field of community development and outreach in Chicago. It was during this period of her life that she realized how many people are unable to advocate for themselves and their families.



### MARASCO & NESSELBUSH

## Hails Technologies to Reduce Texting and Driving

s a follow up to National Teen Driver Safety Week, which took place October 18-24, Marasco & Nesselbush is urging its clients and friends who are parents or guardians of teen drivers to talk with their teens about traffic safety issues.

"We applaud government leaders and safety advocates for their efforts to enact tougher laws to combat distracted driving," said Marasco & Nesselbush Partner Joseph P. Marasco. "We have worked with too many families in recent years who have been devastated over the death or serious injury of a loved one due to distracted driving-related accidents."

Marasco hailed technology advances that allow texting apps to be disabled when cell phones are in a moving vehicle and encouraged more families to learn about texting and driver safety. More information about innovative apps is available at http://www.verizonwireless.com/mobile-living/home-and-family/block-texting-while-driving/.

Clip this and keep in the glove box of your vehicle

# WHAT TO DO

If You Are In An Auto Accident



Call 911 right away.

Do NOT move your vehicle until a police officer says it's OK, unless it's necessary for safety reasons.



If you or your passengers are hurt, get medical help right away. If paramedics, EMTs, or police officers advise you or your passengers to take an ambulance to an emergency room, do it.



Get the names, addresses, and phone numbers of everyone who saw the accident happen (including other drivers and people walking on the street).



Get the names, addresses, drivers' license numbers and insurance information from all the other drivers involved in the accident.



If the person who hit you flees the scene before the police arrive, try to get the license plate number. Write down the plate number, state, color and model of car, if possible.



If possible, take pictures of the accident scene and damage to all vehicles with a camera or cell phone.



Never talk with an insurance company (even your own) before you talk with your attorney.

Please visit our website

www.**M-N-Law**.com

or call us at

(401) 274-7400

for more information or a free legal consultation about a car, truck or cycle accident.



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685 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903

www.M-N-Law.com





Please be sure to visit Marasco and Nesselbush!

# Stay Warm with a Free Fleece Jacket



s the temperatures drop, Marasco & Nesselbush is pleased to once again offer a free fleece jacket to our past and present clients and friends of the firm. It's another small way we can say thanks for your many years of support, kind referrals and friendship. Quantities are limited so we encourage you to call soon and arrange to pick up your cozy fleece!



n addition to our quarterly newsletter, Marasco & Nesselbush is excited to be launching an email engagement program to enhance our ability to communicate with past and present clients and make it easier for you to communicate with us via email. Be on the lookout for informative and timely emails about legal matters and other topics that may be of interest.

If you have a new email address, or aren't sure if Marasco & Nesselbush has an email address on file for you, please visit www.m-n-law.com/email and take a moment to share your current email address.