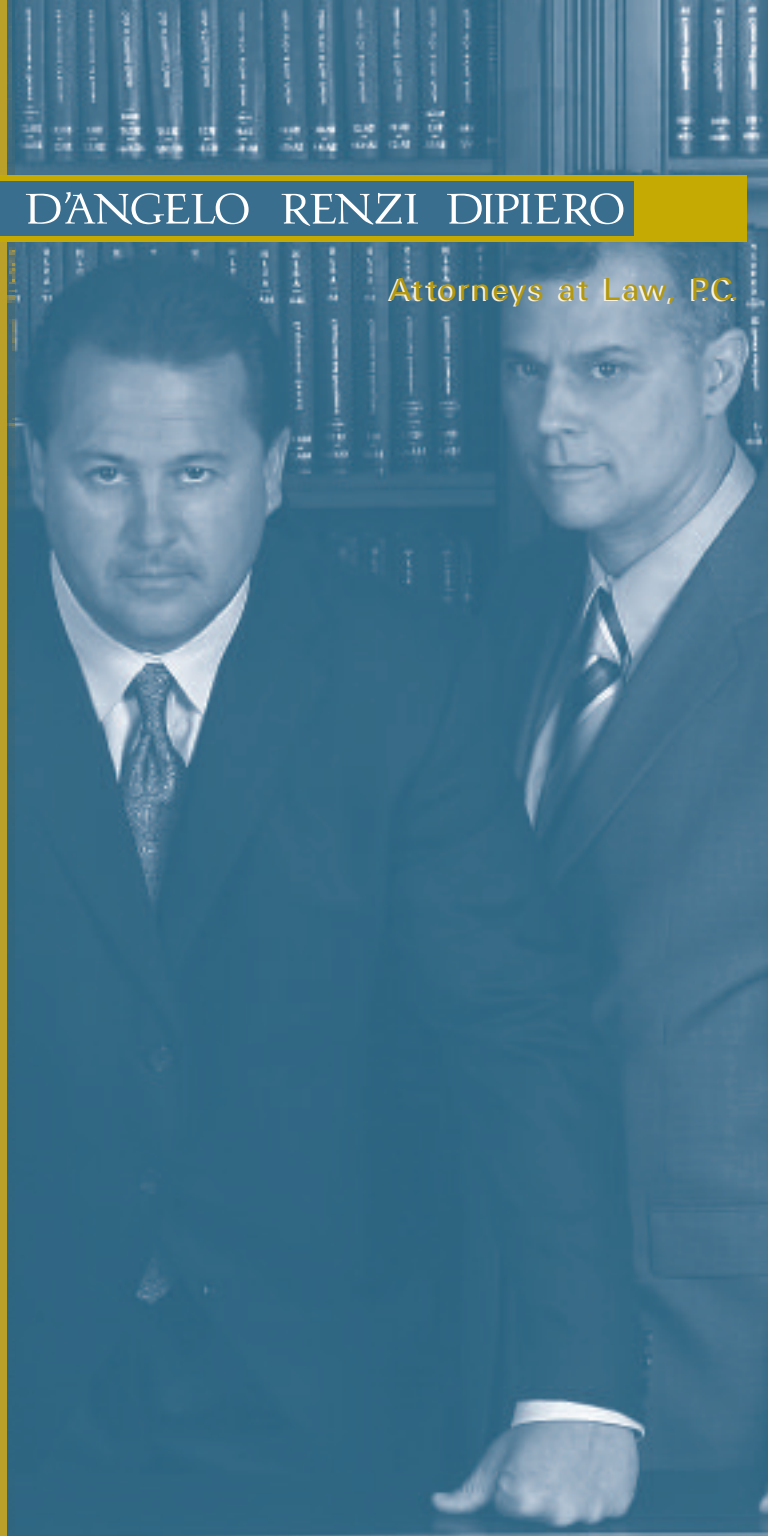


STAMPONE D'ANGELO RENZI DIPIERO

Attorneys at Law, P.C.

*Helping Our
Neighbors
year after year,
in "Millions"
of Ways...*

(See "firm news" for details!)





- ❑ 1 lb. fresh asparagus
Salt to taste
- ❑ Approximately 4 cups Chicken or
Meat Broth
- ❑ 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- ❑ 2 tablespoons fine-quality olive oil
- ❑ 3 tablespoons finely minced onion
- ❑ 2 cups Arborio (or other Italian
short-grained) rice
- ❑ 1/4 cup freshly grated Pecorino
Romano cheese
- ❑ Freshly ground black pepper to taste

Firm's Favorite

Trim the tough ends from the asparagus. Peel off the tough skin from around the bottom of the stalk. Put the cleaned asparagus into a pan that can hold it lying flat. Add cold water to cover by 1 inch and salt. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Cover, lower heat, and simmer for 4 minutes or until asparagus is just tender but still firm. Drain the asparagus, reserving cooking water. Set asparagus aside to cool.

Cut the cooled asparagus into 1 1/2 inch pieces, reserving the tips separately. Set aside.

Combine the asparagus cooking water with enough broth to make 6 cups liquid. Place in a medium saucepan over low heat.

Heat butter and oil in a heavy-bottomed, 6-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion and sauté for about 5 minutes or until onion is very soft and just beginning to turn golden.

Add the rice and sauté for about 2 minutes or until it is glistening. Stir in the asparagus pieces and immediately begin adding hot broth mixture, 1/2 cup at a time, stirring constantly, adding additional broth as liquid is absorbed. When rice has absorbed enough liquid to be al dente and of a creamy consistency, remove from heat and stir in the reserved asparagus tips, cheese, and pepper. Taste and, if necessary, add salt. Serve immediately. (Serves 6)

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Attorneys at Law, P.C.
500 Cottman Avenue, Cheltenham, PA 19012 | 215.663.0400

A Letter from Joe

Volume 9, Issue 1

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

As the managing shareholder of Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero, I am very excited to share with you some of our representative verdicts and awards for our clients throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. These accomplishments demonstrate some of the monetary successes – but success for our clients does not always mean money. In the case of handling your estates, wills, domestic or criminal matters, it means making sure your rights and needs are well represented. A small sample of our accomplishments is included in this newsletter. To learn more, go to our website at www.stamponelaw.com.

Our website, www.stamponelaw.com is a comprehensive source of information useful in your day-to-day lives. The site is fully searchable and includes resource links, attorney profiles, news and articles. To learn more about your personal and financial safety, how to deal with medical practitioners, understanding workers' compensation and social security disability, and a myriad of other everyday legal issues that our attorneys can help you navigate, just go to our articles and newsletters. And, don't forget Joe's Italian Kitchen.

I am also pleased to report that I had the honor to serve again this past February as co-chair along with my dear friend, Carol Tamburino of Turner Construction Company for the 9th Annual National Italian American Political Action Committee (NIA-PAC) Carnevalé. The program included my friend, Vince Papale, former Philadelphia Eagle and the inspiration for the movie "Invincible" as the evening's emcee.

I also want to congratulate our partner, Andrew E. DiPiero, Esq., who was named a 2007 Pennsylvania Super Lawyer® for the second consecutive year and will be featured in the June 2007 Philadelphia Magazine as a top lawyer in Pennsylvania. Andy and I have held this title proudly representing our firm for the past three years.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who have recommended our law firm to your family members, friends, relatives and neighbors. We value each of you as our clients and friends and know that your legal issues deserve our undivided attention. Your faith in us is important and we vow to provide you and your loved ones with the care you deserve. It is because of you that we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary next year!

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Stampone
Managing Shareholder

Firm News

SUCCESSES LIKE THESE PROVIDE OUR CLIENTS WITH THE PROPER HEALTH CARE AND THE TIME TO HEAL THAT THEY NEED. WE THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE TRUSTED US DURING DIFFICULT TIMES IN THEIR LIVES. OVER THE YEARS, YOU HAVE PLACED SUPREME CONFIDENCE IN OUR ABILITIES. FOR THIS, WE SAY THANK YOU!

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

\$8 Million Settlement

Motor Vehicle Accident – Montgomery County – Our client, a minor, rear seat passenger received a settlement award as a result of neurological injuries suffered in a motor vehicle accident wherein the Defendant was operating a commercial vehicle and intentionally/recklessly collided with the minor's vehicle after a road rage incident. A portion of the settlement funds were utilized to purchase an annuity which could provide lifetime benefits over \$35 million.

\$1.1 Million Settlement

Motor Vehicle Accident – Gloucester County – Our client received a policy limits award after the amputation of portions of both legs when he was struck by a automobile as he stood on the shoulder of the Atlantic City Expressway. Defendant, a doctor, fell asleep at the wheel.

\$750,000 Settlement

Motor Vehicle Accident – Montgomery County – Two car motor vehicle accident wherein our client struck her face on the windshield upon impact. Our client suffered injuries to her left cheek, chin and lip, requiring three plastic surgeries for scar repair.

\$3 Million Jury Award

Bicycle accident – Philadelphia County – A Philadelphia jury awarded \$3 million to our client, who was a bicyclist struck by an armored vehicle as she attempted to cross the street. She suffered derangement to both knees, a femoral hernia, and thoracic outlet syndrome.

PRODUCT LIABILITY

\$2 Million Settlement

Product Liability – Bucks County – Our client, a minor, received a settlement award as a result of injuries sustained due to the alleged failure of a lock-out mechanism on a top load washing machine which allowed the minor to fall into the drum during the spin cycle.

\$850,000 Settlement

Product Liability – Philadelphia County – Our client, an emergency room nurse, received a settlement after suffering debilitating injuries including lumbar disc herniation and torn rotator cuff. The injury resulted from defective footwear required to be worn in the operating room.

\$950,000 Settlement

Product Liability – NJ – Our client, a factory worker, received a settlement award after severely burning his hands necessitating multiple surgeries as a result of the operation of a laminating machine. The laminating machine lacked proper safety shield mechanisms and warning signs.

SLIP AND FALL

\$1 Million Settlement

Elevator accident – Philadelphia County – Our client, a registered nurse, received a settlement award of \$1 million when she was injured while a passenger on a hospital elevator which suddenly and without warning dropped numerous floors by way of a "freefall". Injuries included polyneuropathy and multiple disc herniations.

PREMISES LIABILITY

\$575,000 Settlement

Premises Liability – Philadelphia County – Our client, an electrician, was in the course and scope of his employment and while situated on a ladder and running cable through the ceiling of a classroom, the leg of the ladder fell into a hole in the floor, causing the Plaintiff to fall. He suffered a severe fracture of the right foot, permanent surgical scarring and disfigurement, and a permanent limp and weakness of the right foot.

MISCELLANEOUS NEGLIGENCE

\$600,000 Settlement

Deck Collapse – Philadelphia County – Our client received a settlement award for orthopedic injuries suffered when the second floor patio deck he was standing on failed, causing him to fall to the ground.

Social Security Disability Insurance & Supplemental Security Income: Important Information For Anyone Affected by a Disability

AS WE GO ABOUT OUR DAILY ROUTINES, MOST OF US DO NOT THINK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF BECOMING DISABLED AND BEING UNABLE TO WORK. BUT STATISTICS SHOW THAT A 20-YEAR-OLD WORKER HAS A 30 PERCENT CHANCE OF BECOMING DISABLED BEFORE REACHING RETIREMENT. FORTUNATELY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO DISABLED WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH ITS SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM. IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS AFFECTED BY A DISABILITY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER YOU ARE ENTITLED TO SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE – OR SSDI – BENEFITS.



The Legal Corner

By Joseph P. Stampone, Esq.

A worker may receive SSDI benefits if he or she becomes unable to work due to a physical or mental impairment that is expected to last or has lasted for 12 months, or is terminal. But being unable to work or having a doctor say that you are unable to work does not automatically entitle you to benefits. To receive benefits, you must contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) to apply for them. If you meet certain requirements, your application should be approved. However, less than half of all claims are approved upon application. This makes it critical to seek the aid of a skilled attorney who will help you present your application in the best possible way. At Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero, our caring lawyers can help you build as strong a case as possible and can handle your appeal should your application be denied. It is important to understand that while most claims are denied at the initial level, the majority of those claims are later approved during the appeals process.

SSDI Qualifications

Social Security only pays for total, long-term disability. This is because the federal government assumes that you and your loved ones can rely on other sources of income, such as Workers' Compensation, insurance, and savings, during periods of short-term disability. The Social Security Administration will only grant SSDI benefits to those workers who are unable to do the work that they did before and cannot perform other tasks due to their medical conditions. To receive benefits, you must also have worked in the recent past (typically, five out of the last 10 years). This is because the SSDI program is funded by taxes on workers' earnings.

To determine whether your physical or mental impairment is severe enough to interfere with basic work-related activities, the SSA will look to its list of medical conditions that are automatically considered disabling. If your condition is on the list, you will most likely be considered disabled. If it is not on the list, the SSA will decide whether it is of equal severity to one that is. If it is, you will most likely be considered disabled. If your condition is not equally severe, your claim can still be approved if the SSA decides that you cannot perform the work you did previously and are unable to adjust to other work. To make its decision, the SSA will examine your medical condition, your age, your education, your past work experience and other factors.

Some examples of conditions that may be considered disabling are Lupus, Multiple Sclerosis, Epilepsy, Diabetes, Depression, Cancer and Congestive Heart Failure.

The Appeals Process

If your application for SSDI benefits is denied, you are entitled to seek reconsideration by a different disability examiner. If it is denied again, you may appeal your claim. Sometimes, claims make their way from the SSA, to the federal courts, all the way through the U.S. Supreme Court. An experienced attorney from Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero can help you secure the benefits to which you are entitled. Statistics have shown that claimants who are represented by an attorney are granted benefits more frequently than those who do not get legal help.

If your claim is approved, you can expect to receive benefits for as long as you are disabled. Periodically, the SSA will review your case to verify that you are still disabled.

Families of Disabled Workers

If you are a disabled wage earner, Social Security may also pay benefits to your spouse, your ex-spouse, your children and/or your disabled child. Each of your family members could be entitled to a monthly benefit of up to one-half of your disability payment rate, though limits on the total amount paid to family members do exist.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income, or SSI, provides benefits to disabled individuals based on financial need. Under the SSI program, those who have limited income and are age 65 or older, or blind or disabled, are entitled to monthly payments as well as Medicaid assistance. SSI applicants must meet the same definition of "disability" as SSDI applicants. However, SSI applicants need not have worked in the recent past.

Our Role

As you can see, an attorney who knows the ins and outs of SSDI and SSI can help you and your loved ones secure the funds that disabled individuals and their families need during difficult times. If you have any questions about SSDI or SSI, or if one of the attorneys at Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help you, every step of the way. In most cases, if we do not secure benefits for you, there will be no fee for our services.

As always, please feel free to contact Joe Stampone or any one of our attorneys for more information or advice at (215) 663-0400.



Call us anytime if you have questions about your legal needs.

Joseph P. Stampone
Drew P. D'Angelo
Nicholas J. Renzi*
Andrew E. DiPiero Jr.**

Armand E. Olivetti Jr.†
James P. McNally
Kimberly Thomas**
Daniel C. Breen*

www.stamponelaw.com • info@stamponelaw.com

*ALSO MEMBER OF THE NEW JERSEY BAR

††ALSO MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK BAR

‡CERTIFIED AS A CIVIL TRIAL ADVOCATE BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY

†FORMER WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE

~OF COUNSEL

The Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero law firm is a team of dedicated attorneys and legal administrators, who strive to provide ethical, forthright and enlightened legal representation, prompt client responsiveness, diligent preparation and unwavering intensity. Our goal is to pursue the best course of action in litigating cases while understanding our clients' individual needs and personal situations. We respect and value our clients and our professional responsibility to them. We strive to maintain a secure place of employment for our team members to grow professionally and personally.

If you just want to say hello, we are located at 500 Cottman Avenue. If you have questions about your legal needs, call us anytime at 215.663.0400.

STAMPONE D'ANGELO RENZI DIPIERO

500 Cottman Avenue, Cheltenham, PA 19012 **Attorneys at Law, P.C.**

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