

# Michael J. O'Connor & Associates, LLC

Workers' Compensation | Motor Vehicle Accidents | Social Security Disability

April 2015

## Celebrating 25 Years

25 years ago Michael J. O'Connor opened his doors to help the members of the community who have been hurt, have been wronged, or who have run into legal problems. Two and a half decades later, we have helped thousands of people across the state of Pennsylvania in what are most often the toughest times of their lives.

Expanding from our central office in Frackville, Pennsylvania to fifteen offices located in the busiest cities in our state, we have been there for the people of these communities when they are hurt. From work injuries, to car, truck and motorcycle accident victims, to the elderly who have been neglected in nursing homes, and the sick who cannot work to support themselves and their family. We have won cases for those in need when they felt like they had nowhere else to go.

### Our Additional Areas of Practice:

- Nursing Home Negligence
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Tractor Trailer Accidents
- Slip and Fall Accidents
- Mesothelioma
- Wills, Estates & Elder Law
- Wage & Hour Violations
- Birth Injuries
- Product Liability
- Dangerous Drugs

**Do you have a case?**  
**1-800-518-4LAW**



**Xarelto (Rivaroxaban)** may lead to internal bleeding that can cause serious health issues or even death. **Xarelto** is a newer, popular medication used to treat atrial fibrillation and is used to help reduce the risk of blood clots.

Financial compensation may be sought by those who suffered medical complications due to taking **Xarelto**.

Some of the injuries seen in current cases include: *intestinal bleeding, brain hemorrhaging, rectal bleeding, other internal bleeding and death due to uncontrollable internal bleeding.*

For more information, please refer to our website at [www.OConnorLaw.com](http://www.OConnorLaw.com) under our **Areas of Practice, Dangerous Drugs**. Are you entitled to compensation? Find out today!

*Have you or a loved one used*

**Xarelto?**

[www.OConnorLaw.com](http://www.OConnorLaw.com)

# WELCOME TO OUR TEAM

The Law Offices of Michael J. O'Connor & Associates is proud to announce that we have recently welcomed Former Schuylkill County District Attorney Karen Byrnes-Noon to our team of highly regarded attorneys.

Attorney Byrnes-Noon, a former Prosecutor, was the first woman District Attorney in Schuylkill County. She initiated many policies dealing with child and adult sexual assault cases in her 27 years of prosecuting; 25 of those years being in Schuylkill County.

She was the first attorney in Schuylkill County to present DNA evidence and the first attorney to present DNA evidence in a homicide trial.

Attorney Byrnes-Noon uses her many years of court room experience to handle cases involving workers' compensation for the clients of Michael J. O'Connor & Associates. She is working alongside two of Pennsylvania's few Certified Workers' Compensation Specialists: Attorney William Kovalcik and Attorney Debra Matherne.

Attorney Byrnes-Noon is admitted to practice in all Pennsylvania courts, the United States District Court and the United States Supreme Court. She is a graduate of Dickinson Law School and an alumnus of The Pennsylvania State University where she graduated with the Highest Distinction.

"I am very honored to welcome former District Attorney Karen Byrnes-Noon to our team of attorneys. I've known Karen for over 25 years and I've had many cases against her in the past, so I know she will do well in representing victims of work injuries."- Attorney Michael J. O'Connor

She joins the team of legal professionals at The Law Offices of Michael J. O'Connor & Associates, who currently have nine attorneys on staff, including our newest edition, The Honorable Gerald J. Mullery. Attorney Mullery is also a Representative in Pennsylvania's General Assembly representing the citizens of the 119<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.



## The Trials and Tribulations of an Injured Worker

During the last week of October, union presidents from around the state met up at Linden Hall, just a few miles south of Pittsburgh, to discuss and learn about the details of work injuries and workers' compensation cases. Since they are the head of their local Union, it is vital for these hardworking men and women to give their union members good information on how to handle a work injury, which in their line of work can happen any day.

In order to help educate and demonstrate how workers' compensation cases are handled, the attorneys and staff of Michael J. O'Connor and Associates joined them on October 29<sup>th</sup> to perform a mock trial. Attorneys William Kovalcik, Gerald Mullery, and Paul Dufallo, along with staff members Lori Link, Ed Chowanes and Steven Yurkonis all took on roles that would be seen in most workers compensation cases.

The mock trial consisted of scenes in and out of the courtroom, with the case being shown from the worker's perspective as well as his attorney's and the insurance company's. The focus of the presentation was to show two situations any worker could find themselves in. The way these claims are handled by insurance companies and how the workers' attorneys fight back was demonstrated in and out of a courtroom setting.

This is only one of the several union events that staff from Michael J. O'Connor & Associates has attended this year. We work closely with unions in Pennsylvania to help keep them on top of changes to the law that can impact their members.



**Do you have a case ?**  
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## Attorney Michael J. O'Connor Named Super Lawyer For 11th Year

For the 11th time, Michael J. O'Connor, founder of Michael J. O'Connor & Associates, was selected and named as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in the field of workers' compensation law as published in the June 2014 edition of Philadelphia Magazine as well as the recent edition of Super Lawyers magazine.

In addition to Mr. O'Connor, Attorney David A. Miller of Michael J. O'Connor & Associates has been named a Super Lawyer Rising Star for the 2014 list.

Attorneys named Super Lawyers are considered to be the top five percent of attorneys in each state, as chosen by their peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics. O'Connor was first named a Super Lawyer in 2004, making this his eleventh year to top the list of workers' compensation attorneys in Pennsylvania.

This is Attorney Miller's seventh year as a Super Lawyers Rising Star.

To be named a Super Lawyer, an attorney must first go through a rigorous three-step process that begins with a nomination by his/her peers. The nominations occur on ballots that go out to all lawyers throughout the state who have been in practice for at least five years. These nominations are to be based on personal observation rather than solely on reputation.



O'Connor's eleventh Super Lawyer designation makes evident his continued determination to uphold an outstanding level of legal representation. His dedication to injured workers is recognized amongst his peers and demonstrated in his professional achievements.

The attorney team at Michael J. O'Connor & Associates has established a strong record of success. With a combination of integrity, reliability and trustworthiness, they have earned a reputation for the resolution of serious legal problems including work injuries, motor vehicle accidents, nursing home neglect, and social security disability.



### Do you want to win a FREE 7" Google Android Tablet?

Like the Michael J. O'Connor & Associates Facebook page or follow us on Twitter for a chance to win the *Google Android Tablet*.

If you have already liked us and/or follow us, simply send an email to Steven Yurkonis ([syurkonis@oconnorlaw.com](mailto:syurkonis@oconnorlaw.com)) to be entered to win.

You can also enter by calling our office at 1-800-518-4529 and providing your name and telephone number to Steven.

**The last day to enter is May 31, 2015.**



If you no longer wish to receive correspondence from Michael J. O'Connor & Associates, LLC please send an email to [samanthac@oconnorlaw.com](mailto:samanthac@oconnorlaw.com) or call 570-874-3300.

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## Satellite Office Locations

For your convenience, Michael J. O'Connor & Associates, LLC has 15 satellite office locations across Pennsylvania, in addition to our main office located in Schuylkill County.

Call today to set up an appointment at one of our office locations, closest to you:

Allentown	Pittsburgh
Bala Cynwyd	Reading
Danville	Scranton
Hazleton	State College
Lancaster	Stroudsburg
Lock Haven	Sunbury
Philadelphia	Wilkes-Barre
Williamsport	

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