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When injured workers enlist the expertise of the Philadelphia law firm of **Gross & Kenny LLP**, they gain a tireless advocate devoted to helping them recover and move forward with their lives. page 40



# The People's Champion

When injured workers enlist the expertise of the Philadelphia law firm of **Gross & Kenny LLP**, they gain a tireless advocate devoted to helping them recover and move forward with their lives.

BY PHIL GIANFICARO | PHOTOS BY ALISON DUNLAP

**F**or folks who have been injured at work, the uncertainty that follows can become paralyzing. Maybe they're still out of work and missing income, watching medical expenses pile up as they await the outcome of a workers' compensation claim that seems to be going nowhere.

The most effective way to reduce that stress and eliminate the uncertainty is to be represented by an attorney with decades of success obtaining, maintaining, and maximizing workers' compensation benefits, and a law firm armed with "a deep bench" of resources and legal expertise. One with attorneys who possess compassion and around-the-clock accessibility. A law practice that will fight for every dollar a client deserves.

A law firm like Gross & Kenny LLP, headquartered in Center City Philadelphia.

"We will fight to the end for our clients," says Jeffrey S. Gross, the firm's managing partner. "We do all we can to maximize the value of the claim. We always put the best interests of our clients at the top of the agenda."

Gross & Kenny LLP has a long record of success representing clients in workers' compensation litigation in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, including full and partial disability claims, lump sum settlements, occupational diseases, workplace fatalities, and subrogation matters. In all cases, clients can rest assured they will be able to contact the firm and receive a response at all hours of the day.

"One of the things that separates our firm is the hands-on approach Jeff and I take," says Patrick W. Kenny, a partner in the firm. "We even give out our cell phone numbers. Clients can call us anytime. They don't deal with paralegals; they talk to us directly. That goes a long way to building trust with them."

Attorney Gross adds, "We're responsive. You call me, I call you right back. The issue here is client service. People expect an immediate response, and they get it. Clients can call me, text me, email me, or come to the office with questions. We are always available to them. I cannot rest unless I know everything with my client is OK. That's what separates us from other firms."

Gross & Kenny's legal team takes the time to truly understand the unique needs of all its clients. The firm will handle every detail of the case—filing paperwork, scheduling medical appointments, filling out forms, providing medical records to physicians, strategically determining the full value of a claim, and negotiating on the client's behalf. In other words, the firm's expert staff executes a game plan for maximizing a client's benefits, freeing up clients to focus on what's most important: recovering from their injury.

Gross earned his undergraduate degree in both business administration and accounting with honors from Muhlenberg College in 1988, and his Juris Doctor from the Dickinson School of Law in 1991. Kenny graduated from Hamilton College in 1995, and received his Juris Doctor from New York Law School in 2003. In the years since, both attorneys have been recognized repeatedly for their place among the finest workers' compensation lawyers in Pennsylvania. Each is certified as a specialist in the practice of Workers' Compensation Law by



Jeffrey S. Gross



Patrick W. Kenny

the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Section on Workers' Compensation Law as authorized by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Gross, who has been named a Super Lawyer as recognized by *Pennsylvania & Delaware Super Lawyers* magazine each year since the inception of the honor in 2004, has also been included among the top 100 lawyers in Philadelphia and the top 100 lawyers in Pennsylvania. In addition, he was awarded the Philadelphia Bar Association's prestigious Martha Hampton Award in recognition of his strong record of support for injured workers, along with his professionalism and history of community service. Kenny, who is certified as a specialist in the practice of workers' compensation law, has been recognized as a Super Lawyer and previously as a Super Lawyers Rising Star.

Jeffrey Gross is currently the Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Section on Workers' Compensation Law. All attorneys at Gross & Kenny LLP are members of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice, and are members of Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association. Gross has served on the Philadelphia Bar Association executive committee since 1999, and is a past chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Workers' Compensation Section. He is on the board of directors of both the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association and the Pennsylvania Association for Justice, and also serves on the board of Kids' Chance of Pennsylvania, which supports individuals needing assistance for college or vocational education due to a parent having been killed or injured catastrophically at work.

Considering the long-term implications of a work-related injury, workers need to have the utmost confidence in the firm they hire to represent them. They also need to understand how much the representation of a skilled workers' compensation attorney will cost.

"We do not charge an hourly rate for representation," Gross says. "Our fee is limited to 20 percent of our recovery for our clients. We don't get paid unless we win the case and unless it's approved by a judge. The real question to me is: How can you afford *not* to be represented by a lawyer from our firm? We don't get paid unless we get our clients paid."

Gross & Kenny LLP welcomes referrals from other law firms who require the expertise of attorneys who specialize in workers' compensation claims. Not only will Gross & Kenny pay a referral fee to the firm, but it will also keep the firm fully apprised on the status of the case.

Between them, Gross and Kenny have decades of experience answering questions that are specific to a client's case and then taking the case forward. In the end, after they have delivered a favorable outcome for a client, the attorneys' reward isn't so much what the client says, but the subtle gestures of appreciation they offer.

"I once represented a client from Algeria who was a U.S. citizen," Gross recalls. "He was so happy we won his case that when he went back to Algeria to visit his family, he sent me a heavy wooden statue with many different symbols on it designed to ward off evil. That was special to me."

"Our goal is to exceed our clients' expectations," he continues. "The look we get from a client when we help them with a settlement that maybe they didn't expect to win is one of the greatest moments in life. There's a term for when you have a low expectation, but end up achieving something significant. It's called happiness." ■



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