PAUL NAPOLI APPOINTED A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN OPIOID LITIGATION

Paul J. Napoli has been named Co-Lead Counsel in the New York Opioid Cost Recovery Litigation by Judge Jerry Garguilo of the Supreme Court of the State of New York for Suffolk County.

In this role, Mr. Napoli will oversee all currently pending cases filed by counties within New York against opioid manufacturers and distributors. “Today was really the first day the counties were able to unite, to come together to fight the epidemic against the manufacturers,” attorney Paul Napoli said.

“Today, we entered into the first Case Management Order which set the stage for this litigation. We know this will be a long battle but we look forward to fighting for the residents of our State and taking down big pharma,” attorney Salvatore Badala said.

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC is currently filing lawsuits on behalf of cities and counties against the manufacturers and distributors of opioid pain medications.

JOINING THE FIGHT AGAINST THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
Cuyahoga County sues major pharmaceutical companies and individual doctors for their role in the opioid addiction crisis. The county’s medical examiner estimates there will be more than 800 opioid-related deaths by the end of 2017.

ESSEX COUNTY, NEW YORK
Essex County has joined the growing number of New York county governments preparing to sue drug companies they say profit from the opiate crisis.

FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA
Georgia’s largest county filed a lawsuit against companies that make and distribute opioids. Fulton County’s death rate from opioid abuse is twice the national average. More than 150 opioid-related deaths took place in Fulton County last year alone.
GENESEE COUNTY, NEW YORK
The county joined the trend of local governments suing pharmaceutical companies over the opioid crisis. The legislature signed with Napoli Shkolnik upon the recommendation of County Attorney Kevin Earl.

MORA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
Mora County has become the first New Mexico governmental entity to seek damages against the manufacturers and distributors of opioid painkillers.

NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK
Niagara County is moving ahead with its lawsuit against several manufacturers and distributors of opioid painkillers for their role in sparking a nationwide heroin and opiate epidemic.

PORTLAND, MAINE
Maine’s largest city selected Napoli Shkolnik to help offset the “massive damages” that the heroin addiction epidemic has caused in and around the city of Portland, according to City Attorney Danielle West-Chuhta.

SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK
Saratoga County is fighting back against the opioid crisis by authorizing legal action against companies and doctors that make, distribute and prescribe such drugs irresponsibly.

TOLEDO CITY, OHIO
“It is designed to hold them responsible,” Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson said. “The goal is to recover our costs and to change the ways in which they prescribe and advertise these drugs.”

Napoli Shkolnik is working with government attorneys and local counsel to bring actions against the manufacturers and distributors of prescription opiates for damages arising out of the fraudulent and negligent marketing and distribution of opiates in and to the county, city or state.

Counties, cities, and states have had to spend millions of dollars each year in their efforts to combat the public nuisance created by the deceptive marketing campaigns. They have incurred, and continue to incur, costs related to opioid addiction and abuse, including, but not limited to, health care costs, criminal justice and victimization costs, social costs, and lost productivity costs.

It is Napoli Shkolnik’s hope that these lawsuits will help states and municipalities receive funding to help in the fight against this epidemic.

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC is proud to already represent:

- MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
- PARMA, OHIO
- NASSAU COUNTY, NEW YORK
- DAYTON, OHIO
- NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK
- CITY OF LORAIN, OHIO

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PARTNER HUNTER SHKOLNIK NAMED CO-LIAISON COUNSEL IN FLINT WATER CRISIS LITIGATION


In this role, Mr. Shkolnik will oversee all currently pending individual personal injury, property damage, and wrongful death cases, as well as the over 18,000 potential cases awaiting to be filed in this mass action arising out of the water contamination in Flint.

The decision comes just over three years after the water crisis in Flint began. The lawsuits allege that Flint residents suffered ruinous damages to their health and property when Defendants recommended, approved, and caused Flint’s water supply to become contaminated with corrosive lead and bacteria.

“I welcome the opportunity to work with the Co-Lead and Co-Liaison Counsel, to bring a resolution for the people of Flint,” says Mr. Shkolnik. “This tragedy continues to affect the entire community daily, and the victims deserve relief.”

PARTNER SHAYNA SACKS APPOINTED LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PPI LITIGATION

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC is proud to announce that Partner Shayna E. Sacks was named to the Plaintiffs’ Steering Committee in the In Re: Proton-Pump Inhibitor Products Liability Litigation (MDL 2789) by United States District Judge Claire C. Cecchi of the District of New Jersey.

As a steering committee member, Ms. Sacks will investigate and develop the claims in this case by overseeing the coordination, preparation, and presentation of the necessary legal documentation.

Ms. Sacks brings her substantial mass tort legal acumen and experience to the diverse group of attorneys that were selected. In her role, she will oversee all currently pending individual personal injury and wrongful death cases. Napoli Shkolnik PLLC alone has over 1,000 cases.

“I am proud to be part of such a knowledgeable and talented group of attorneys who are ready to fight for the rights of those affected by this product,” says Ms. Sacks. “We are all committed to providing superior legal representation and together we will work towards the best resolution for our clients.”

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SIGNIFICANT VICTORY IN BETHPAGE, NEW YORK TOXIC PLUME LITIGATION

The Nassau Supreme Court granted Napoli Shkolnik's motion to allow injured parties to go forward with their suit against the Town of Oyster Bay regardless of when they were injured. This decision is good news for individuals who were injured years ago by toxic pollutants, but only recently discovered the presence of these pollutants in their homes or property.

Area residents have been exposed to and injured by the massive toxic plume emanating from Grumman's local operations, many of which have been released into the ground around their facilities.

Alarmingly, due to the chemicals' extreme volatility, the contaminants are migrating up as vapors through the soil and into the residents' yards, basements, and homes. Exposed families are at a risk of liver damage, kidney damage, cardiovascular damage, impaired immune system function, bladder cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, renal cell carcinoma, as well as other illnesses and cancers.

CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT FILED FOR PFOA CONTAMINATION IN YAPHANK, NEW YORK

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC has filed a class action lawsuit against five manufacturers of aqueous firefighting foams ("AFFF") containing perfluorooctanesulfonic acid ("PFOS") and perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA") for the contamination of the groundwater relied upon by the residents of Yaphank, New York. The class action complaint was filed in the Supreme Court for the State of New York, Suffolk County, and names The 3M Company, Tyco Fire Products L.P., Buckeye Fire Protection Co., National Foam, Chemguard, and others as Defendants.

The class action complaint alleges that plaintiffs and other similarly situated residents of the Yaphank area have been exposed to high levels of perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), and are now at an increased risk of several health effects, including effects on the liver and the immune system, high cholesterol, changes in thyroid hormone, as well as kidney and other cancers. The complaint also states that property values in the area have dropped as a result of the contamination.

In May of 2017, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) declared the Suffolk County Firematics Training Facility a Class 2 Superfund Site that presents a significant threat to public health and/or the environment.

“We think it is time to hold these manufacturers accountable for the harm their products have caused so many communities locally and across the country,” said Napoli Shkolnik environmental litigator Patrick J. Lanciotti.

New York Law Journal publishes “The Emerging Crisis of PFAS Exposure” by Paul Napoli and Tate Kunkle. The article provides a background on PFAS, possible PFAS regulation and why it has become such a hot topic now.

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**Partner Marie Napoli** lead the “America on Opioids: The Issues, The Claims and The Coverage” Perrin Conferences webinar.

**Partner Jennifer R. Liakos**: instructor at the American Association for Justice Education’s “Trial Advocacy College: Depositions” seminar in Portland, Oregon.

**Partner Shayna E. Sacks**: lecturer at the Safe America Foundation’s 2017 World Safe Summit in Atlanta speaking about the opioid epidemic.

**Partner Shayna E. Sacks**: featured speaker at HarrisMartin’s National Opioid Litigation Conference for the “Current Landscape of Opioid Litigation” session in Chicago.

**Partner Shayna E. Sacks**: featured speaker on “The Judiciary & MDL and State Court Consolidations: A Delicate Balance” at the invitation-only Plaintiffs’ Forum on Mass Tort Litigation in Naples, Florida.

**Partner Hunter J. Shkolnik**: faculty member for the “Public Nuisance: No Doubt, But Can We Prove It” panel held by the American Association for Justice Leaders Forum in Washington D.C.

**Partner Hunter J. Shkolnik**: faculty member for the American Bar Association Regional CLE: Current Issues in Pharmaceutical, Medical Device and Biotech Litigation. Specifically, he spoke about “Litigating Public Health Epidemics.”

**Partner Hunter J. Shkolnik**: featured speaker on the “Opioid Governmental Cost Recovery Litigation” panel at the American Association for Justice Leaders Forum, Hot Topics in Mass Tort Litigation seminar in St. Louis.

**Partner Hunter J. Shkolnik**: featured speaker at the National Opioid Litigation Conference in Chicago speaking on “Who are the Governmental Action Plaintiffs and What are the Causation Theories.”

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**Marie Napoli** on Crime Stories with Nancy Grace speaking about new rape allegations against Roman Polanski.

**Marie Napoli** speaks with Fox 43 Las Vegas about scams after tragedies.

**Hunter Shkolnik** on Crime Stories with Nancy Grace discussing Steven Avery of Making A Murderer.

**Hunter Shkolnik** on Dr. Drew regarding “Traumatic Brain Injuries Suffered by Football Players (CTE).”
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Keeping You Informed

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PARTNER MARIE NAPOLI PENS AN OP-ED ABOUT THE HARVEY WEINSTEIN SCANDAL

The well-regarded legal industry publication LawDragon includes “Lawyer Viewpoint: Marie Napoli On The Law On Sex Addicts and Weinstein.” The Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association (BWBA) also highlighted the article as part of their ongoing efforts “To Promote, Protect & Further the Rights of All Women.”

When Everyday Heroes Get Hurt, They Call Napoli Shkolnik PLLC.

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC Files Toxic Chemical Water Contamination Lawsuits

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC filed three class action lawsuits in Orange County Supreme Court a little more than a year after the residents of the City of Newburgh learned they had been exposed to toxic concentrations of a fire fighting foam constituent called perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (“PFOS”). PFOS can cause an increased risk of several health effects, including effects on the liver, the immune system, high cholesterol levels, increased risk of high blood pressure, changes in thyroid hormone, ulcerative colitis, pre-eclampsia, and kidney and testicular cancer.

Despite multiple investigations having determined that the PFOS came from the Stewart International Airport and Air National Guard Base, those responsible have refused to come forward to help the City’s residents. It became clear to many local residents and prominent members of the community that legal help was needed.

“It is a sad state of affairs when Fortune 500 companies and governmental entities systematically poison a city of 30,000 people here in the United States, and then bury their head in the sand hoping the problem just disappears,” said Napoli Shkolnik environmental attorney, Tate J. Kunkle.

The lawsuits seek to recover for personal injuries, property damage, and future medical monitoring from the chemical manufacturers, The 3M Co. and Tyco Fire Products L.P., and the Port Authority.

Partnership

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