Brooklyn New York Construction Accident Attorney Comments on Local Law 78

June 11, 2024

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New York City's construction industry has long faced concerns over worker safety and public well-being. In response, the city enacted Local Law 78 in 2017, a comprehensive measure aimed at promoting transparency, accountability, and a heightened emphasis on construction site safety. This blog post delves into the intricacies of this law, shedding light on its provisions, implementation, and potential impact on the construction sector.

"Local Law 78 is a crucial step towards enhancing safety standards in the construction sector," says Brian Mittman, Esq., a seasoned attorney with extensive experience handling construction accident cases. "By requiring the reporting of fatalities and significant injuries, this law sheds light on the frequency and severity of incidents, enabling regulatory bodies to identify problem areas and implement targeted safety measures."

Mittman emphasizes the law's potential impact on the industry, stating, "The substantial fines authorized by Local Law 78 serve as a powerful deterrent against negligent practices, incentivizing construction companies to prioritize worker and public safety. Moreover, the public availability of accident reports promotes transparency and accountability, empowering advocacy groups and the community to monitor industry practices closely."

Understanding the Essence of Local Law 78

At its core, Local Law 78, officially termed the "Construction Safety Reporting Law," mandates the reporting of specific incidents to the Department of Buildings (DOB) and imposes penalties for non-compliance. This legal framework aims to create a culture of transparency and foster a safer environment for workers, bystanders, and the general public.

Reportable Incidents

Under the law's provisions, site owners, general contractors, and subcontractors are required to report the following incidents to the DOB within three days of occurrence: Fatalities, any construction-related fatality involving a worker or member of the public. Significant Injuries: Injuries sustained by a worker or bystander that necessitate ambulance transportation to a medical facility.

Reporting Requirements

When reporting an incident, construction entities must provide detailed information, including: Names of the site owner and, if applicable, the contractor employing the injured workers thorough description of the incident and the work being performedIdentification of any violations issued as a result of the incident number of individuals injured or killed; Date, time, and location of the incident ion affiliation status of the injured worker (if applicable).

Enforcement and Penalties: Deterring Negligence

To ensure compliance and incentivize responsible construction practices, Local Law 78 authorizes the DOB and the Environmental Control Board to impose civil penalties for violations. These penalties can range from $2,500 for failure to report an injury to $25,000 for hazardous violations, with additional daily fines for ongoing non-compliance.

Promoting Transparency and Accountability

One of the key objectives of Local Law 78 is to foster transparency and accountability within the construction industry. The law requires the DOB to compile and publish monthly reports detailing all reported construction accidents. These reports are publicly available on the City of New York website, providing valuable insights into construction site safety practices and potential areas for improvement.

Impact on the Construction Industry

The implementation of Local Law 78 has far-reaching implications for the construction industry in New York City. By mandating accident reporting and imposing substantial fines, the law incentivizes construction companies to prioritize worker and public safety. It also empowers regulatory agencies with data-driven insights, enabling them to identify patterns, address systemic issues, and develop targeted interventions to enhance overall construction site safety.

Moreover, the public availability of accident reports serves as a powerful tool for stakeholders, including workers, advocacy groups, and the general public, to monitor industry practices and hold construction entities

accountable. This increased scrutiny can drive positive change and foster a culture of safety within the construction sector.

Building a Safer Future

New York City's Local Law 78 represents a significant step towards improving construction site safety and enhancing transparency within the industry. By mandating accident reporting, imposing substantial penalties, and promoting public access to incident data, this law aims to create a safer environment for workers, bystanders, and the community at large.

As the construction industry adapts to these new regulations, it is crucial for all stakeholders to embrace a proactive approach to safety, prioritizing worker well-being, public safety, and legal compliance. Through collaborative efforts and a shared commitment to responsible practices, the construction sector can pave the way for a future where safety is not merely a requirement but an integral part of its culture.

About Markhoff and Mittman

Markhoff and Mittman is a distinguished law firm specializing in construction accident cases. With a history of dedicated service and a robust track record, the firm has established itself as a trusted advocate for workers who have been injured on construction sites. The attorneys at Markhoff and Mittman understand the complexities of construction accident cases, including the various safety regulations and potential liabilities involved. They work tirelessly to ensure that their clients receive the compensation they deserve, whether it be through negotiations or litigation.

The firm handles a wide range of construction accident cases, including falls, equipment failures, and safety violations. Markhoff and Mittman are well-versed in the nuances of New York labor laws, making them particularly adept at navigating the legal landscape to their clients' advantage. Their comprehensive approach involves meticulous investigation and collaboration with experts to build a strong case. This dedication to detail and client-centric strategy has earned Markhoff and Mittman a reputation for excellence in construction accident law.

Client satisfaction is at the heart of Markhoff and Mittman?s practice. The firm prides itself on providing personalized attention and tailored legal strategies to each client. Understanding that construction accidents can have devastating physical, emotional, and financial impacts, the attorneys at Markhoff and Mittman offer compassionate yet aggressive representation. They are committed to fighting for their clients' rights and securing the maximum possible compensation to cover medical expenses, lost wages, and other related costs.

Beyond their expertise in construction accident law, Markhoff and Mittman also focus on educating their clients about their rights and the legal process. They believe in empowering clients through knowledge and clear communication. This educational approach helps clients make informed decisions and feel more in control during what is often a stressful and uncertain time. Markhoff and Mittman?s commitment to transparency and support has made them a leading choice for those seeking justice after construction accidents.

Brian Mittman, a founding partner of Markhoff and Mittman, is a highly respected attorney with extensive experience in construction accident law. His deep understanding of the industry and legal framework allows him to effectively advocate for injured workers. Brian is known for his strategic thinking and relentless pursuit of justice for his clients. His leadership has been instrumental in shaping the firm?s approach to client service and case management. With a keen eye for detail and a compassionate approach, Brian Mittman ensures that each client receives the best possible representation. His dedication to his clients' well-being and his legal acumen have earned him a stellar reputation in the legal community.

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Markhoff & Mittman PC, also known as The Disability Guys is a workers' compensation and construction accident law firm that represents injured workers and their families.

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