Petrillo and Goldberg recently resolved three personal injury claims for elderly clients. The first was an elderly victim of a house fire. The claimant left a pot cooking on her kitchen stove which caught fire. The victim believed that her fire alarm system would automatically call local fire officials as it had done in the past. She suffered burn injury when fire officials did not receive the automatic signal and she attempted to put the fire out by herself. Petrillo and Goldberg brought suit against her fire alarm company and telephone service which allegedly cut the fire alarm system’s automatic alarm connection to local authorities.

The second claim involved a grandmom escorting her grandchildren, who fell into a hole left when a parking meter was removed by vandals. The third involved an elderly victim who slipped and fell on ice leaving a hair salon.

Personal injury claims for the elderly usually take on special characteristics. Generally, elderly claimants make good witnesses in front of juries. However, defense attorneys will try to lessen damages by alleging lesser life expectancies. Also, elderly claimants usually have an interest in resolving their claims more quickly as prolonged litigation can be wearisome and can prevent elderly victims from the useful benefit of their compensation awards.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
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Continued from front page

Lead trial counsel, Scott Goldberg, advises that, in light of these concerns, Petrillo and Goldberg will place claims involving elderly claimants into suit and initiate all available settlement methods as quickly as possible to bring such claims to a successful conclusion. “Insurance companies get really nervous when an elderly claimant testifies in court because juries tend to like them so much,” commented Goldberg. “So we put such cases into suit as quickly as possible while exhausting all available settlement methods such as mediation or arbitration,” he added.

The results speak for themselves.
Our Firm's Philosophy
The lawyers at Petrillo & Goldberg strive to provide professional, aggressive, and conscientious representation to our clients who suffer serious injuries at work or caused by another's negligence. All of our clients are worthy of the hard work and competence that our litigation team brings to each and every case we handle.

New Jersey has a Second Injury Fund which helps employers help workers seriously injured and disabled at work. It is called the Second Injury Fund.

It works as follows: in the event a worker suffers serious, disabling injury at work, the parties are entitled to petition the state to access the Second Injury Fund which will contribute to a workers' compensation award the amount of disability attributable to injuries that a worker had before becoming employed with the employer they worked for when they suffered injury at work.

“This is an excellent source of benefits in serious workers’ compensation cases,” said lead workers’ compensation attorney Scott D. Schulman, Esquire. “It is fair for the employer and greatly assists a seriously injured workers’ compensation claimant.”

The Fund will pay a percentage of any total disability award for injuries that a worker had before ever taking the job.

“This helps the employer fund a total disability claim with workers’ compensation insurance and is an excellent tool for obtaining a fair and just total disability award in workers’ compensation court,” said Schulman.

In the event you suffer a serious disabling injury at work, you should immediately contact the law firm of Petrillo & Goldberg, P.C., to speak with Mr. Schulman and discuss your legal right to contribution from the New Jersey Second Injury Fund.

Workers' Comp Update
THE SECOND INJURY FUND & YOU: PERFECT TOGETHER?

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATIONS 856-486-4343 petrilloandgoldberg.com
The lawyers at Petrillo and Goldberg want you to call us if you're ever injured in an accident or at work. We want to be your law firm. If you have a legal matter that needs attention, please contact us. If we cannot handle your case, we will refer you to a competent firm that can. Please feel free to refer us to your family, friends and neighbors for their personal injury or workers' compensation legal needs. We welcome the opportunity to help you.