

Death of a Ground Zero First Responder Highlights Importance of the Zadroga Act, New York Personal Injury Lawyer Says

World Trade Center responder William Quick died following the passing of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act , a fact that should provide some relief for Quick's family, New York personal injury lawyer David Perecman says.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK – William Quick, a retired firefighter who spent two months toiling in the toxic dust and debris of the fallen World Trade Towers after 9/11, died from lung disease at the age of 55. He was on continuous oxygen before his death.

The 23-year veteran of the FDNY was a [first responder on 9/11](#). Quick searched for survivors, then victims of the terrorist attacks. He worked at Ground Zero every day from September to November 2001, briefly stopping only after he injured his knee. He returned to labor in the World Trade Center rubble in January 2002.

A series of lung infections forced Quick to retire in 2003, reported the *New York Daily News*.

Quick is the second 9/11 emergency responder to die since the passing of the James [Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act](#), a \$4.3 billion bill which will provide health services and financial compensation to thousands of sick and injured rescue and recovery workers made ill by [Ground Zero toxic dust](#) after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

“The Zadroga Act will help heroes like Quick, as well as the heroes who are still battling illnesses connected to 9/11,” said New York personal injury lawyer David Perecman. “Victims and their families now know they may be [eligible for compensation](#) and health benefits.”

Quick left behind his wife and 17-year old twins Ryan Mary and William Henry.

“The [Zadroga Act](#) will help heroes like Quick and those who are still battling the illnesses connected to 9/11,” said Perecman, the [New York personal injury lawyer](#).

Since the Twin Towers collapsed, a number of rescue workers, policemen, construction workers, cleanup workers and firemen who helped on the site, have been diagnosed with illnesses that have been linked to [Ground Zero toxins](#), including silicosis, sinusitis, asbestosis, chronic infections, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and mesothelioma, a rare type of lung cancer often associated with asbestos exposure.

The collapse of the towers released many lethal and dangerous toxic substances including asbestos, silica, mercury, lead, and polyvinyl chloride.

Roy Chelsen, 58, was the first [9/11 emergency responder to die](#) from an illness thought to be connected to his rescue work at Ground Zero following the passing of the Zadroga Act. He succumbed to bone-marrow cancer earlier this year.

The Zadroga Act was named in honor of a New York police officer who died from a [respiratory disease connected to 9/11 rescue efforts](#).

In New York, as personal injury lawyer Perecman understands, Ground Zero responders may begin making [claims under the Zadroga Act](#) in July 2011.

Responders suffering long-term personal injury from exposure to Ground Zero are entitled to get compensation. All the victims can file a compensation claim under the Zadroga Act. However, as [New York personal injury lawyer](#) Perecman explained, anyone who files a claim will have to prove in the court that their illness is connected to the Ground Zero toxins.

Injured or ill individuals including firefighters and medical personnel who would like more information about the the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, or would like to know if they are eligible for benefits or compensation, please visit www.perecman.com, or call 1 718 WORKERS (967 5377). Our expert New York personal injury lawyers can also assist you with your claim.

About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:

For the past 30 years, the personal injury accident, construction accident, auto accident, and medical malpractice lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have championed all types of cases concerning personal injury. David Perecman, founder of the Firm, is a Board Director and the past Secretary and Treasurer of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (NYSTLA) and a chair of its Labor Law Committee. Mr. Perecman's achievements have brought him recognition as an Honoree in the National Law Journal's Hall of Fame, in New York Magazine's "The Best Lawyers in America" and The New York Times Magazine "New York Super Lawyers, Metro Edition" for the years 2007- 2010.

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/12/02/price-freedom>

The Firm has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Among the more recent victories, Mr. Perecman won a \$15 million verdict* for a construction accident, a \$10 million dollar verdict** for an scaffold accident, and a \$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice***.

*later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million
** case settled after the jury verdict in amount of \$ 10,020,000
*** total potential payout

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