

# Lab Executives Faked Safety Tests on NYC Buildings Despite Potential Risk to Lives, Said New York Personal Injury Lawyer

**Executives from American Standard Testing and Consulting Laboratories face charges they faked concrete strength tests on New York City buildings.**

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK** — Executives of a major safety lab allegedly skipped safety tests and filed false reports on a variety of projects both large and small, claiming their concrete met quality and strength standards.

“Fortunately, they were caught before anyone was hurt or injured,” said [New York construction accident lawyer](#) David Perecman.

As reported by Reuters, prosecutors accused American Standard Testing and Consulting Laboratories (ATSC), a Long Island firm, of fabricating almost all of its work from 1997 to 2009.

American Standard's owner, Alan Fortich, his brother Alvaro Fortich and four engineers were indicted by a Manhattan grand jury. They had all pleaded not guilty to charges of enterprise corruption, offering a false instrument for filing in the first degree, engaging in a scheme to defraud in the first degree and falsifying business records in the first degree, reported *The Wall Street Journal*.

According to Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, close to 3,000 test reports contained illegitimate test results. Buildings involved in the fraud include Yankee Stadium, the Javits Center, the Fulton Street subway station, the Port Authority Bus Terminal, Lincoln Tunnel, and the Second Ave. subway, reported the *New York Daily News*.

ATSC provided false results for both mix designs and tests of actual concrete samples from construction sites, the indictment said. The company also is accused of falsifying credentials to get city licenses and to be registered as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

“For a company to put profits ahead of people is a gross abuse of public trust,” said Perecman, founder of The Perecman Firm, one of [New York's construction accident law firms](#).

As [New York construction accident lawyers](#) understand, many NYC builders depend on independent laboratories to test the concrete.

Under the city building code, a lab hired for a construction project is supposed to mix up

sample batches of concrete formulas and subject them to pressure until they break, in order to make sure they can withstand the loads they need to.

The affected sites have been inspected again and "at this point there aren't any outstanding safety issues," Vance said.

The individuals indicted each face up to 25 years in prison if convicted of enterprise corruption, the top charge.

David Perecman and his team of [New York construction accident lawyers](#) at The Perecman Firm have won [hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements and verdicts](#) for [victims of construction accidents in New York](#) who were injured or killed due to the negligence or misconduct of another individual, company, or entity.

About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:

For the past 30 years, the construction accident, auto accident, scaffold accident, and medical malpractice lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have championed all types of cases concerning construction accidents. 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 \$5.35 million dollar verdict\*\* for an automobile accident, and a \$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice\*\*\*.

\*later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million

\*\* later settled for \$3.5 million

\*\*\* total potential payout

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