

WTC Victim Compensation Fund Attorney

THE MARCOWITZ LAW FIRM
ZADROGA FAMILY ATTORNEY
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*The James Zadroga
9/11 Health and Compensation Act*

**RESIDENTS,
COMMUTERS,
RESCUE AND RECOVERY
WORKERS AND
VOLUNTEERS
WERE EXPOSED
TO ENVIRONMENTAL
HAZARDS AT
GROUND ZERO**

**SUBSTANTIAL
COMPENSATION
FOR THOSE
WHO QUALIFY**

What is the 9/11 VCF?

On Jan. 2, 2011, President Barack Obama signed The James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 into law, reopening the original September 11th Victim Compensation Fund. The reactivated Fund (commonly called the new 9/11 VCF or Fund) expands eligibility for compensation to people with certain cancers, physical injuries/illnesses or death resulting from exposure to environmental toxins (such as asbestos) that the 9/11 attacks or debris removal efforts caused. Congress allocated billions of dollars for compensation through the 9/11 VCF.

Who is Eligible?

First responders, cleanup workers, area residents, commuters, and others (or their personal representatives) who:

- were present at one of the four 9/11 crash sites at the time of the crashes or were in the following areas between Sept. 11, 2001 and May 30, 2002:
 - Buildings/ portions of buildings that were destroyed by the attacks
 - NYC Exposure Zone (area in Manhattan south of the line that runs along Canal Street from the Hudson River to the intersection of Canal Street and East Broadway, north on East Broadway to Clinton Street, and east on Clinton Street to the East River)
 - Any area related to, or along, routes of debris removal such as barges and Fresh Kills
- **AND** who suffered certain cancers, (including Skin, Prostate and Breast), physical injuries as a result of the crashes or debris removal
 - In certain circumstances, people who submitted original VCF claims may submit new claims to the new Fund.

The new Fund will not accept claims solely for psychological health problems such as post-traumatic stress disorder

ABOUT EDWARD MARCOWITZ

PERSONAL ATTORNEY TO THE FAMILY OF DETECTIVE JAMES ZADROGA

The Marcowitz Law Firm concentrates in representing those injured by toxic exposures in the aftermath of the September 11th Terrorist Attacks. Mr. Edward L.C. Marcowitz, Esq. is extremely proud and honored to serve as the personal attorney to the family of NYPD Detective James Zadroga after whom the relevant piece of Federal Legislation was named.

Ed's experience in representing those effected by the WTC attacks is incredibly unique and virtually unparalleled. He spearheaded one of the largest Pro Bono efforts in history on behalf of New York City Firefighters and their families. While working at one of New York's most respected personal injury firms, Ed worked extensively with Special Master Ken Feinberg in the original September 11 Victims Compensation Fund of 2001. Ed ultimately assisted in the recovery of just under \$3,000,000,000.00 for the family members' of Victims.

Special Master Ken Feinberg has stated that "he knew of few lawyers I worked with in my administration of the VCF that are more capable or qualified than Ed." After the original VCF had closed, Ed also represented a select few clients in the Federal World Trade Center litigation where, after appealing an award he believed was unsatisfactory, he was successful in obtaining just under \$1,900,000 for the widow and family of a New York City Sanitation worker who passed away due to his September 11th related illnesses. It was one of the highest awards issued in that litigation.

During this time, Ed was also involved in a number of Pro Bono efforts on behalf those involved in rescue efforts. Ed successfully advocated to overturn several FDNY Pension Board decisions that denied disability pensions to members of New York's Bravest who had suffered debilitating lung injuries as a result of their heroic efforts at Ground Zero. These accomplishments were unprecedented and were consequently chronicled in the New York Daily News, The New York Law Journal and The Chief-Leader.

While involved in all of the above, Ed was involved in lobbying The United State Congress to re-open the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund. More and more people were being diagnosed with cancers and other respiratory condition related to their exposure in the Ground Zero vicinity. Upon the passage and reauthorization of the James Zadroga Health & Compensation Act, Ed had the distinct privilege of giving the opening remarks as a featured speaker at a Fealgood Foundation (one of the premier advocacy groups for the 9-11 Community) symposium at Queens College which sought to educate the public about the newly opened fund.

Ed is also proud to have served as an "expert witness" with respect to the September 11th Victim's Compensation Fund on behalf of a Chicago Family whose original WTC award was wholly inadequate. In the end, the case settled for an amount that was one of the highest ever issued by the Fund. Ed donated his entire \$10,000.00 expert fee to both the Uniformed Firefighter Association and Uniformed Fire Officers Association of Greater New York. (\$5,000 to each organizations Widows and Children's Fund.

Ed has been working with first responders, firefighters, police officers and union workers since the inception of the Fund, months after the terrorist attacks. We now look forward to working with people who were residents of the area or spent a significant amount of time there between 9/11/2001 and 5/30/2002, whether it be through the course of employment, residency or simply for visits. Anyone who was in the area during this time frame could be entitled to, not only free health coverage, but significant monetary compensation as well.

As you have already read, Eddie is very passionate about obtaining compensation for losses that could have been averted, and looks forward to meeting with and welcomes the opportunity to represent you and your families.



" I know of few lawyers I worked with in my administration of the VCF that are more capable or qualified than Ed."

...Kenneth Feinberg, Special Master September 11th Victims Compensation Fund.

TOXIC EXPOSURE SIDE EFFECTS:

The VCF pays victims for certain cancers, physical injuries, illnesses or death that were a direct result of the 9/11 attacks, as well as certain latent health conditions and diseases included in the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program:

• **CANCERS** including

Prostate

Skin

Breast

Lung

- Asthma
- Carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS)
- Chronic cough syndrome
- Chronic laryngitis
- Chronic nasopharyngitis
- Chronic respiratory disorder
 - fumes l vapors
- Chronic rhinosinusitis
- Gastro-esophageal reflux disorder (GERD)
- Interstitial lung disease
- Low back pain
- Other specified musculoskeletal disorders
- Reactive airways dysfunction syndrome (RADS)
- Sleep apnea
- Upper airway hyperreactivity
- WTC-exacerbated chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

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