A mid an incredibly challenging time for the legal profession in 2021 and 2022, the firm continued its tradition of excellence by securing record-setting results that improve the lines of clients and keep the public safer.

Making History in New York State

Despite the added challenges of the pandemic, the firm’s advocacy strengthened New York law to better protect the local community.

In New York State there is a doctrine of law known as “zone of danger” damages, which was established in a case in which The New York Court of Appeals affirmed an award affirmed in Manhattan Supreme Court pending under the New York Child Victims Act. The resolution in this case, making clear that Alonzo Yanes suffered “devastating injuries in the future,” Rubinowitz said. “We appreciated the careful decision rendered by the Appellate Division."

The resolution in Yanes v. City of New York was achieved on the heels of another significant milestone for the firm and the plaintiffs’ bar. The firm’s advocacy in Greene v. Equinox Venture Partnership, et al., also received national recognition and inspired the New York Court of Appeals to expand existing law. Greene stemmed from the tragic passing of a two-year-old who was crushed to death in front of her grandmother by a falling cement façade in New York City.

Rubinowitz and Steigman successfully challenged New York State’s doctrine of law known as “zone of danger” damages. Formerly, only "immediate" family members could receive compensation for the emotional harm suffered in witnessing the death of a relative— a grandmother was not considered to be an “immediate” family member. The firm’s pursuit of justice helped the grandmother’s claim to be reinstated and a jury will now be able to decide on the damages that should be awarded for such a horrific injury.

"This successful appeal made it possible for relatives who are often caretakers, like grandparents, to file claims if they suffer a similar tragedy," Steigman noted. "We strongly believe that non-relatives and even strangers who witness such an unfortunate event should be able to file a claim against a negligent party.” The firm also continues to litigate a wide range of malpractice and injury matters, including many pending under the New York Child Victims Act.

Firm and Individual Awards, in NYC and Nationally

The firm has been recognized locally and nationally for outstanding client service and influential results. GGCRBHS&M maintained a National Tier 1 ranking in 2023 from U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" in Mass Tort Litigation | Class Actions – Plaintiffs and Tier 1 rankings in New York City for representing plaintiffs in the areas of Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury Litigation, Professional Malpractice, Mass Tort Litigation | Class Actions, Medical Malpractice, Product Liability Litigation and Personal Injury Litigation. Among its various additional honors, GGCRBHS&M was named "Law Firm Of The Year" for Personal Injury Litigation in 2013 by U.S. News - Best Lawyers."

Nine of the firm’s lawyers have been included in the 2023 edition of New York’s Best Lawyers: Howard Hershenhorn, Partner – Medical Malpractice – Plaintiffs; Richard Steigman, Partner – Medical Malpractice – Plaintiffs; Anthony Gair, Partner – Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs; Ben Rubinowitz, Partner – Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs; David H. Larkin, Partner – Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs; and Richard Steigman, Partner – Medical Malpractice – Plaintiffs.

In 2022, the firm was named "Law Firm Of The Year" for Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs. "We are proud of the resolutions we’ve achieved in recent years, and are as committed as ever to securing justice for the injured and holding well-funded defendants accountable,” Rubinowitz said. "The recognition of our younger lawyers demonstrates that we do not rest on our laurels, and we will continue building on the firm’s legacy.”

Furthermore, Rachel Jacobs, James Rubinowitz, Richard Steigman, and Richard Soldano were also recognized in the 2023 edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America for Medical Malpractice Law, Personal Injury Litigation and Product Liability Litigation – Plaintiffs.

The recognition of GGCRBHS&M’s seasoned lawyers and its rising stars are a testament to the firm’s commitment to excellence.

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