



Allegheny County Jury Holds Owner Responsible for Injuries Due to Poor Inspection and Maintenance

An Allegheny County Common Pleas Jury awarded a 58 year old worker from Bethel Park and a 51 year old worker a total of \$7.8 million from Consol Energy, Inc. who were injured due to the corrosion failure of stairway bolts. The stairway was bolted to the outside concrete block of a Consol-owned building on Brownsville Road in South Park.

Registered Professional Engineer Dr. Behzad Kasraie of O'Donnell Consulting Engineers testified that the structural support deterioration resulted from the lack of inspection and maintenance. He testified that Consol Energy, Inc. did not properly inspect and maintain the bolts supporting the stairs, or protect them from exposure to water. This allowed corrosion to progress unabated for decades. Dr. Kasraie was able to pinpoint the precise cause of the failure in examining the bolts and the site. He testified for the Plaintiffs who were represented by Attorneys John Brown and Carl Parise.