



*New England's Trusted Personal Injury & Social Security Disability Law Firm*

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

### Personal Injury Law

- Auto Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Uninsured Motorist
- Alcohol Related Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Wrongful Death
- Premises Liability

### Social Security Disability Law

- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

### Workers' Compensation Law

## SEVEN CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

PROVIDENCE, RI: (401) 274-7400  
685 Westminster Street

WAKEFIELD, RI: (401) 783-0000  
231 Old Tower Hill Road, Suite 206

WARWICK, RI: (401) 738-7700  
51 Jefferson Boulevard, 3rd floor

WOONSOCKET, RI: (401) 762-9800  
603 Park Avenue

LAWRENCE, MA: (978) 988-8800  
439 South Union Street, Suite #B-11A

QUINCY, MA: (617) 773-8700  
20 Whitney Road

NEW LONDON, CT: (860) 443-7734  
21 Montauk Avenue, Suite #G04

## ATTORNEYS

Joseph P. Marasco  
Donna M. Nesselbush  
Jennifer L. Belanger  
Amanda Briggs  
Anthony S. Buglio  
Valerie E. Diaz  
Jane R. Duket  
Mark H. Grimm  
Mariam A. Lavoie  
Timothy P. Lynch  
Thomas L. Moran  
Philip M. Weinstein, Of Counsel

*This newsletter is intended for current and former clients of Marasco & Nesselbush. We thank you for your many kind referrals and for placing your trust and confidence in our firm.*

*The Rhode Island Supreme Court licenses all lawyers in the general practice of law. The court does not license or certify any lawyer as an expert or specialist in any field of practice.*

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

### *Marasco & Nesselbush Helps Protect You When the Unexpected Happens*

Life is unpredictable and when the unexpected happens, Marasco & Nesselbush's Social Security Legal Team is here to protect your rights should you become disabled. Our client "Francesca" was emotionally shattered when she was unexpectedly assaulted on the job. She tried to continue working but her coworkers said she was "not the same anymore". Eventually, Francesca's boss suggested she seek medical advice. Francesca was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and taken out of work by her psychiatrist. When she filed her application for Social Security benefits, Francesca was unfortunately denied at both the initial and reconsideration levels. Soon thereafter, she contacted Marasco & Nesselbush, and Managing Attorney Mariam Lavoie won full retroactive benefits for Francesca.

Another one of our clients, "Peter", was denied benefits 14 months after he filed his application. Peter was forced to leave his long-term job as a tractor trailer driver due to severe back pain that eventually required surgery. He filed for Social Security Disability benefits when it was clear he would not be able to return to work and the surgery did not resolve his back pain. Our legal team encouraged Peter to renew his application and continue to fight. With our help, Peter's new application was approved at the initial phase without the need for a second hearing.

To learn more about the three stages of a Social Security Disability benefit application, please see page 3.

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

### *Obstetrical Negligence Litigation Results in \$900,000 Award*

Marasco and Nesselbush partner, Joseph Marasco, and Associate Attorney, Tim Lynch, recently resolved a medical negligence case on behalf of a client who became infertile as a result of her obstetrician's negligence. The case involved the failure to diagnose retained placental tissue after our client delivered her first child. Our client went on to develop a condition called Asherman's Syndrome, which ultimately resulted in infertility.

The defendant doctor and his legal team argued that the doctor complied with the appropriate standard of care and our client's condition was not a result of the doctor's care. The doctor's experts were prepared to testify that the doctor did all that was required. Our firm could prove otherwise and retained extraordinary



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*Pictured left to right: Dennis Cesana, Cecilia Santos and Donna Nesselbush.*

## CECILIA SANTOS

### *Intake Assistant Honored as Employee of the Quarter*

**M**arasco & Nesselbush is proud to recognize Cecilia Santos (“Ceci”) as our Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2016. Our employees show compassion, kindness, innovation and a willingness to go above and beyond for our clients, and Ceci is no exception. After working for a large New York City law firm, Ceci joined us in March 2012 as an Intake Legal Assistant in the Social Security Department and immediately started adding value to our team. Ceci was attracted to our family oriented culture, loves that she can make a difference and takes pride in being part of a team that serves the injured and disabled. Ceci is originally from the Dominican Republic and graduated from Assumption College with a Bachelor's degree in Spanish and Latin American Studies. When Ceci is not working, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her family, which includes her loveable dog Biscuit. We congratulate Cecilia on her achievement and give thanks for her continued dedicated service!

“GIVE US CLEAR VISION, THAT WE MAY KNOW WHERE TO STAND AND WHAT TO STAND FOR –  
BECAUSE UNLESS WE STAND FOR SOMETHING, WE SHALL FALL FOR ANYTHING.”

~ Peter Marshall

*Welcome*



### **JENNIFER BETTENCOURT**

*Director of  
Personal Injury  
Operations*



**DENNIS  
CESANA**  
*Director of  
Social Security  
Operations*

## JOSEPH MARASCO

### *Named President-Elect of the Rhode Island Association for Justice*



*Pictured left to right: Tom Moran, Anthony Buglio,  
Mariam Lavoie, Joseph Marasco,  
Donna Nesselbush and Valerie Diaz.*

*On Friday, September 9, 2016,  
the Rhode Island Association  
for Justice “RIAJ” held its  
30th Annual Awards  
Reception where Joseph Marasco  
was named President-Elect.  
RIAJ is Rhode Island’s largest  
trial bar and promotes a fair  
and effective justice system,  
ensuring that persons injured  
by misconduct or negligence  
of others can obtain justice.*

# Marasco & Nesselbush ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

We welcome Amanda, Tom and Valerie to our Marasco & Nesselbush family!

Marasco & Nesselbush strives to provide all of our clients with the utmost care and respect while also achieving extraordinary results. We cannot do this without talented, dedicated lawyers. We are excited to share that our legal team has grown with the addition of Amanda Briggs and Valerie Diaz in our Social Security Department and Thomas Moran in our Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Department.

## AMANDA BRIGGS



Amanda Briggs earned her law degree from the University of Massachusetts School of Law (Dartmouth) and is passionate about helping the injured and disabled get the benefits they deserve in order to get their lives back in order. When Amanda is not working to protect her clients' rights, she enjoys dancing and spending time at the ocean.

## THOMAS "TOM" MORAN



Thomas "Tom" Moran is a graduate of Providence College where he played Division I soccer, and a graduate of Roger Williams University School of Law. He is licensed to practice in three states – Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Tom has a competitive streak that has served him well both professionally and while he's playing soccer.

## VALERIE DIAZ

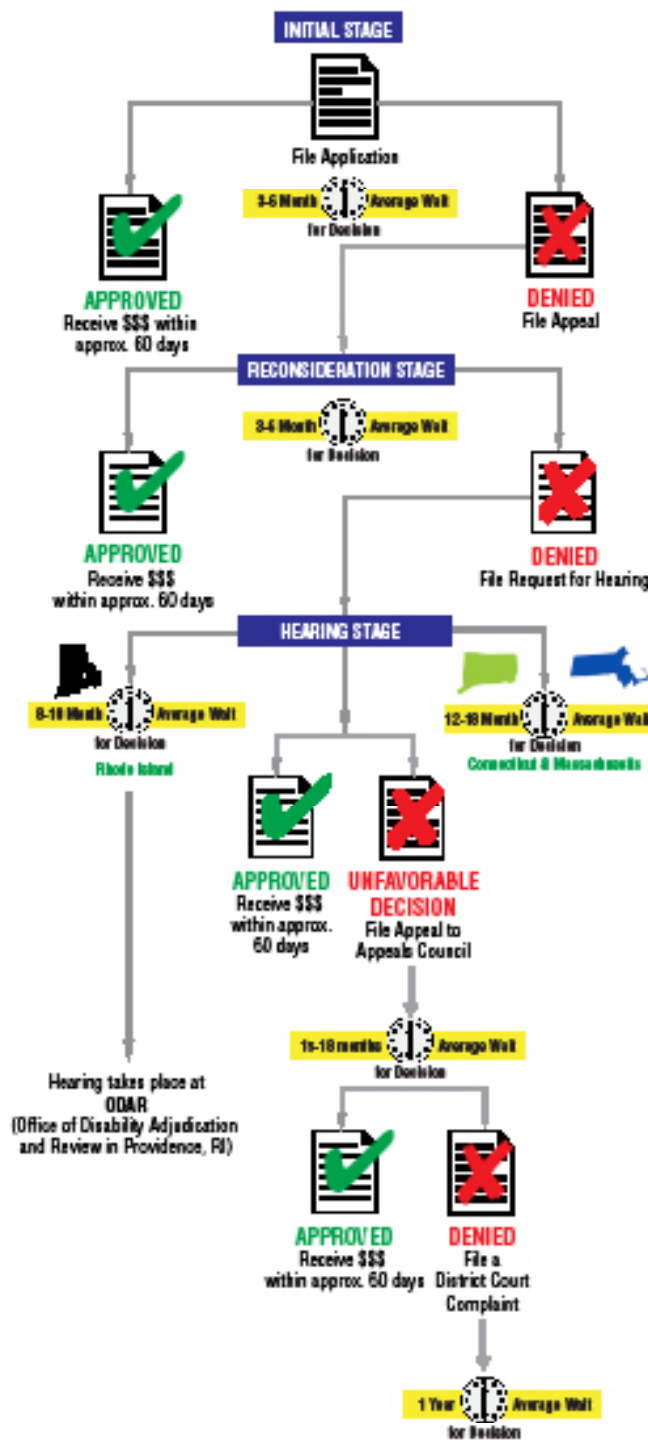


Valerie Diaz is also a graduate of Roger Williams University School of Law. From the time she was a young girl, Valerie knew she was meant to serve the public and help others, and this was confirmed for her after taking a constitutional law course in college. Valerie experienced our exceptional, world-class client care when she brought a family member's case to us, and this motivated her to join our firm.

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experts to establish negligence and damages. On the eve of trial, after extensive litigation, the doctor chose to resolve the matter and avoid the risk of a jury trial. Had the trial proceeded, our legal team would likely have been successful due to the medical and legal developments and our exceptional experts. However, the choice to resolve the matter was in our client's best interest and in part based

## SOCIAL SECURITY TIMELINE



on the available insurance coverage.

“No amount of money can truly compensate our client for the loss she and her family sustained. But, we are thankful that the doctor and his insurance carrier were held accountable for his actions. Tim did an outstanding job developing the case,” said partner Joe Marasco.



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Marasco And Nesselbush

## Stay Warm

with a **Free** Fleece Jacket



**A**s the temperatures drop, Marasco & Nesselbush is pleased to once again offer a free fleece jacket to our past and present clients and friends of the firm. It's another small way we can say thanks for your many years of support, kind referrals and friendship. Quantities are limited so we encourage you to call soon and arrange to pick up your cozy fleece!

## *Testimonial*

“This is the third time for me using this law firm. They successfully got me awarded social security benefits, and won both my insurance claims. I wouldn't even consider another firm to handle any future assistance I may need. Thank you so much Marasco & Nesselbush. Outstanding job. I feel like a true family member. I will always recommend everyone to Marasco & Nesselbush. I love you all.”

~ Albert M.