



## **New York Asbestos Lawyer Joseph W. Belluck Describes Process of Filing Mesothelioma Lawsuit**

*Mesothelioma victims may have been exposed to asbestos for years without knowing it, says attorney Belluck, of Belluck & Fox, LLP.*

New York, NY ([PRWEB](#)) January 27, 2010 -- A person diagnosed with mesothelioma might have been exposed to asbestos for years without even realizing it, a New York attorney said.

“To be frank, if you have mesothelioma, we know you were exposed to asbestos,” said attorney [Joseph W. Belluck](#), a partner in [Belluck & Fox, LLP](#), a New York law firm that focuses on representing victims of asbestos-related disease. “It’s just a matter of taking a detailed history and figuring out where that exposure occurred.”

In a recent interview, Belluck described the process of filing a mesothelioma lawsuit, from the initial consultation with the client to the examination of medical and work records and the various legal steps that may take place, such as depositions and a courtroom trial.

[Mesothelioma](#) is a cancer of the mesothelial cells, caused by breathing in asbestos fibers that become lodged in the thin membrane that lines and encases the lungs. For several decades, asbestos-containing materials were used in a wide variety of products.

Commonly, mesothelioma cases involve Navy, construction and industrial workers who were exposed to asbestos — the disease’s only known, established cause — while installing asbestos materials, Belluck said.

But mesothelioma is not limited to Navy, construction and factory workers, Belluck noted. A dentist may have used asbestos-containing material in making castings for fillings. A jeweler may have used it in crucibles. Or a lab technician may have been exposed to it through various products.

“It doesn’t always click when people are told that they have mesothelioma that they have had a significant source of exposure to asbestos during that time,” said Belluck.

Reported cases of mesothelioma have increased in recent years because of the long latency period associated with the asbestos-caused cancer. It can take anywhere from 10 to 50 years after exposure before the onset of the disease.

In New York, as a matter of public policy, there is no “statute of repose” that would prevent a person from suing a manufacturer a number of years after the asbestos-containing product was produced. However, a person could lose his or her right to file a mesothelioma lawsuit if action is not initiated immediately upon diagnosis. This is called the “statute of limitations.”

“If you are diagnosed with mesothelioma, you need to contact a lawyer right away because the statute runs from the date of diagnosis,” Belluck said.



## About Belluck & Fox

[Belluck & Fox, LLP](#) is a nationally recognized law firm that represents individuals with asbestos and mesothelioma claims, as well as victims of crime, medical malpractice, motorcycle crashes, lead paint and other serious injuries. The firm provides personalized and professional representation and has won nearly \$225 million in compensation for clients and their families.

Partner Jordan Fox is a well-known asbestos and mesothelioma attorney who has been named to the Best Lawyers in America, New York Magazine's "Best Lawyers in the New York Area" and to Super Lawyers. On two separate occasions his verdicts were featured as the National Law Journal's Largest Verdict of the Year.

Partner Joseph W. Belluck is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in New York Magazine's "Best Lawyers in the New York Area" and in Super Lawyers. Mr. Belluck has won numerous cases involving injuries from asbestos, defective medical products, tobacco and lead paint, including a recent asbestos case that settled for more than \$12 million.

For more information, contact the firm at 877-695-2909 or through the [online contact form](#).

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