

From Jerry Maschka



In recent months several people have contacted our office inquiring about representation after attempting to resolve their own personal injury directly with the insurance company. From speaking with these people, it seems that many insurance companies are making

an extended effort to prevent injured people from seeking the advice of lawyers by providing assurance that ultimately the insurance company will “take care of them” or implying the client is financially better off without representation.

Do Not Fall Into This Trap!

All personal injury firms, including this one, offer a free consultation and, without fail, those who try to manage these cases on their own always do so to their financial detriment. This is because without the assistance of effective counsel, people do not know how to properly prepare their claim for presentation. There are literally hundreds of decisions to be made in the handling of a personal injury claim. These claims do not fall into categories of value and there are numerous factors to be considered in each valuation.

Do Not Make the Mistake of Trying to Handle Your Own Case Without the Assistance of Counsel!

About Maschka, Riedy & Ries

Complex Civil Litigation

The work of this firm focuses on cases that require complex civil litigation or mediation. Our team of 10 lawyers and 17 legal support staff work for clients who have suffered personal injury, wrongful death or loss in a construction dispute or other civil issue. Our firm’s full legal resources are a formidable force for balance and justice when a wrong has been suffered.

Compassionate Client Service

People and the healthy continuation of their lives are the reason for our work. Jarred by an unexpected event, our clients deserve the compassion, respect, clear communication and direction we provide. We are united in our commitment to help them navigate troubled times and resolve issues so life can be resumed with self-respect intact.

Professional Achievement

Together, our attorneys bring 218 years of legal experience to client cases. This depth of experience, specialized knowledge and a collaborative approach produce consistently successful client outcomes. Partner Jerry Maschka is among Minnesota’s “Top 40 Personal Injury Lawyers” (MN Law & Politics), and for the 13th consecutive year is counted among Best Lawyers in America, a Best Lawyers® referral

guide respected for stringent peer-review selection.



Complex case? Ask us to lead.

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- Marcus J. Christianson
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- Jorun Groe Meierding
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Complex Law, Personal Care

Asleep at the wheel, the driver of a car crossed the centerline of a highway into the path of a tractor-trailer truck that was approaching from the opposite direction. Realizing the driver of the car would be killed if the car collided with his semi, the trucker took his rig to the shoulder, avoiding a head-on collision. But the trucker sustained

injuries resulting in paralysis when his rig rolled over because of the evasive maneuver.

Because this MRR client was without a network of personal support, legal assistant Alicia More and lawyer Jerry Maschka, along with a close friend of the

client, stepped in to help him get the care he needed in the hospital and during the year following the accident. Maschka and More made his friend his conservator to ensure that the client had stable lifetime care, had basic needs met, had adequate nursing care, and so that rehabilitation proceeded to the degree possible. Maschka and More put financial procedures in place so the conservator could support his friend in years ahead.

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Paraplegia Presents Need for Maximum Settlement

Complex Negotiation

Though he tried mightily, the client could not recover significant function, and medical bills mounted. It soon became clear that settlement would have to be maximized and carefully structured to cover all future expenses. Also, because the client was 65 years of age, Maschka knew it was possible that developing Federal law would require repayment of future medical care, adding considerable complexity to planning for the client's welfare. To provide in the face of this complication, MRR structured a Medicare set-aside and, with assistance from an annuity company, developed an age rating that



reflected the impact of the injuries on lifespan, thereby increasing the money available to the client from a \$2.25 million settlement.

Says Maschka, "This client is a wonderful person and, while we relish a challenge, our primary concern is meeting our client's needs and the balance of justice which will help people move on with their lives. In this particular situation, the reward was measured because healing will never take place. He was never able to develop the strength necessary and required to enter a rehab center. Our only satisfaction was knowing we have done all that is possible to ensure he is supported and will receive practical care, which provides comfort to some degree. He paid a very high price for saving someone else's life."

tip The complexity of your injury and your overall situation will likely not be obvious in the days or weeks immediately following the incident. **Do not wait to speak with an experienced personal injury lawyer who can help you recognize symptoms, seek help, anticipate future care, and guide you through a process which is much more complicated than it will first appear.**

MRR: Partnering with outside attorneys

Complex problem? We litigate, mediate.

If your client is faced with a personal injury case that requires mediation or complex litigation, we are ready to assist. As partners, we respectfully, purposefully move your client from crisis to justice and resolution. Call Jerry Maschka to discuss specific case details and client needs.

507.625.6600

Other Areas of Expertise: Western Minnesota Office

Maschka, Riedy & Ries partner Marc Christianson, a recognized litigation specialist for over 29 years, serves clients from offices in both Mankato and Minneota. A native of Minneota, Christianson has continued the practice started by his father, Lester Christianson, more than 60 years ago.

The western Minnesota office serves clients in Marshall, Cottonwood and surrounding communities. Mr. Christianson is licensed to practice in South Dakota and serves clients there as well.

General practice services in Minneota include: personal injury, wrongful death, estate planning, probate, and real estate. Complex litigation such as personal injury and insurance defense are a primary focus.



"Our 10-member firm's capacity to handle large, complex personal injury cases is one of its greatest strengths," says Christianson.

Marcus J. Christianson, Partner

Marc Christianson is certified as a Civil Trial Specialist. He serves as a member of the Fifth Judicial District Commission on Judicial Selection, the Minnesota Association for Justice, and as Director, North Star Mutual Insurance Company. He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and Hamline University School of Law, and has been named a Minnesota Super Lawyer by MN Law & Politics. Christianson was recently selected for membership to the American Board of Trial Advocates.



Jerry Maschka has been named one of Minnesota's Top 40 Personal Injury Attorneys by MN Law & Politics for a second consecutive year.

Sixteen members of the firm formed team MRR Lil' Gators to raise money and participate in the **Mankato Arthritis Walk**, held May 3, 2008 in Spring Lake Park. The event raises awareness and funds for the Arthritis Foundation. The MRR Lil' Gators raised \$3,405.00 in support of the cause.



For the 14th consecutive year, **Jerry Maschka** was named to Best Lawyers in America.

Marc Christianson has been selected by his peers to membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). Membership recognizes Marc's reputation, personal character, and trial lawyer proficiency.

Personal injury case recently settled by Jerry Maschka. A case of a young woman, attacked by two Dobermans, and who suffered a post-traumatic stress disorder following the event, settled for \$45,000.

complex problems resolved