



**ODDO & BABAT, P.C.**

*Integrity / Commitment / Results*



### *A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRM*

As we reflect on 2025, your attorneys at [Oddo & Babat](#) are proud to share a small sampling of the meaningful results we've achieved for our clients. Each case represents not just a settlement or verdict, but a family's journey toward justice and recovery. These outcomes demonstrate our commitment to holding negligent parties accountable and securing the compensation our clients deserve.

### *SPECIAL FOCUS: THE HIDDEN DANGERS OF TRAMPOLINE PARKS*

#### **TRAMPOLINE PARK NEGLIGENCE**

##### **\$1,325,000 Settlement**

Our client suffered a severe fractured ankle at a trampoline park, requiring multiple surgeries and extensive rehabilitation. Partner [Eric Babat](#) secured a \$1.325 million settlement for a client who suffered a severely fractured ankle requiring multiple surgeries. The settlement reflects not only the immediate medical costs but also the long-term impact on our client's mobility and quality of life. This case is part of our ongoing work representing victims of trampoline park injuries and holding these facilities accountable for maintaining safe environments.



Trampoline parks have become increasingly popular as family and children's entertainment venues. However, what many parents don't realize is that these facilities are fundamentally different—and far more dangerous—than backyard trampolines. The interconnected trampoline systems used in commercial parks create unique hazards that lead to severe injuries, including fractures, spinal damage, and head trauma.

## The Science Behind The Danger

Trampoline parks use powerful, interconnected trampolines designed to amplify forces. Unlike backyard trampolines, these commercial-grade systems often use stronger mats connected by cables or chains, resulting in a "harder bounce." This design generates a massive force capable of breaking bones—even without any collision between jumpers.

When multiple jumpers share these interconnected surfaces, the danger multiplies exponentially. Each person's movement generates unpredictable energy waves that propagate throughout the entire trampoline system. This phenomenon, sometimes called the "double bounce" effect, can launch jumpers higher and with greater force than anticipated, resulting in severe injuries such as femur fractures, even without them falling off the trampoline.

## Why Trampoline Parks Pose Higher Risks

**Increased Force and Bounciness:** Commercial trampoline parks use stronger mats and connection systems, resulting in significantly higher rebound forces than home trampolines. These forces are strong enough to cause severe bone fractures, spinal injuries, and other trauma without any collision between users.

**Multiple Jumpers:** When multiple people share trampolines, the interconnected system can lead to unpredictable energy transfer. One person's jump can create a wave of force that unexpectedly launches another jumper, dramatically increasing collision risk and impact severity.

**More Severe Injuries:** Studies show that trampoline park injuries are significantly more likely to require hospitalization and surgery than backyard trampoline injuries. Common injuries include lower extremity fractures, severe sprains, spinal damage, and, in the most tragic cases, paralysis.

**Hidden Dangers:** Perhaps most alarming is that serious injuries can occur simply from the trampoline's rebound force itself—not just from falling off or colliding with another person. The interconnected design means the system's generated force can cause catastrophic injuries, even when users believe they're jumping safely.

## Medical Expert Warnings

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has issued clear warnings about trampoline use. The AAP recommends that children under 6 never use trampolines and, more broadly, advises against trampoline use for all ages due to consistently high injury rates. Pediatricians and orthopedic surgeons recognize trampoline parks as a significant safety concern, with injury patterns that are both predictable and preventable.

## Safety Recommendations Often Ignored

While safety experts provide clear guidelines, trampoline parks frequently fail to enforce them adequately:

**Age Restrictions:** Children under six should never use trampolines, yet many parks allow young children to jump.

**One Jumper Rule:** Only one person should use each trampoline section to avoid collisions and unpredictable energy transfer, but this rule is rarely enforced.

**No Flips or Somersaults:** Stunts dramatically increase injury risk, especially for inexperienced jumpers, yet parks often encourage or fail to prevent these activities.

**Constant Supervision:** Active, attentive supervision is crucial, but many facilities operate with insufficient staff to properly monitor all jumping areas.

**Understanding the Risk:** Even with padding, safety nets, and posted rules, serious injuries remain common. The fundamental design of interconnected, high-powered trampolines poses risks that cannot be fully mitigated by protective equipment alone.

## Our Experience and Commitment

We have successfully represented numerous clients injured at trampoline parks. In one notable case, our experience in this area has given us deep insight into how these injuries occur and why the interconnected trampoline design poses risks that far exceed those of other recreational activities.

Trampoline park operators have a legal duty to maintain safe premises and protect patrons from foreseeable harm. When they fail to enforce safety rules, properly maintain equipment, or adequately warn visitors about the genuine risks of interconnected trampolines, they must be held accountable. Our firm is committed to pursuing justice for trampoline park injury victims and advocating for industry-wide improvements that prioritize safety over profits.

## If You've Been Injured

If you or a loved one has been injured at a trampoline park, don't assume that signing a waiver eliminates your legal rights. Many of these waivers are unenforceable, particularly in cases involving gross negligence, inadequate supervision, or injuries to minors. The interconnected trampoline systems that caused your injury represent a known hazard that facilities should manage responsibly. Contact our office for a free consultation to discuss your case and explore your legal options.



## PERSONAL INJURY

### MULTI-VEHICLE RIDESHARE ACCIDENT

#### **\$400,000 Settlement**

A family of three traveling in a Lyft vehicle was caught in a devastating four-car crash. The father sustained severe neck and back injuries requiring ongoing treatment. His teenage daughter suffered a fractured vertebra, and while she thankfully made a full recovery without surgery, the injury was serious and frightening. Most heartbreaking was the impact on their six-year-old daughter, who sustained significant emotional trauma from the accident. The \$400,000 settlement compensates the family for their medical expenses, pain and suffering, and the emotional toll this crash took on all three family members.



Navigating a claim involving a rideshare giant like Lyft presents unique legal hurdles, particularly when multiple vehicles are involved. In this case, our priority was ensuring that the insurance companies looked beyond the immediate medical bills to see the true human cost of the accident.

By meticulously documenting the father's ongoing physical needs and the long-term psychological impact on the children, we were able to secure a \$400,000 settlement. This result serves as a vital reminder that 'recovery' isn't just about physical healing—it's about providing a family with the financial security they need to reclaim their sense of safety and move forward with their lives.

## *Civil Rights Advocacy: Fighting for Justice at Rikers Island*

### *Protecting Constitutional Rights*

### *Over \$10 Million Recovered*

Beyond personal injury and medical malpractice, our firm has taken a leading role in defending the constitutional rights of some of society's most vulnerable individuals: those incarcerated at Rikers Island. This work represents our deep commitment to ensuring that every person, regardless of their circumstances, receives the protection and dignity guaranteed by law.

#### Illegal Strip Search Litigation

In one of our most significant civil rights achievements of 2025, we reached a settlement in excess of **10 million dollars** secured on behalf of over 650 inmates who were subjected to illegal strip searches conducted by the New York City Department of Correction in violation of their constitutional rights. These searches were not only humiliating and degrading but were conducted without legal justification, violating clearly established Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches.

Strip searches represent one of the most invasive intrusions into personal dignity and privacy. When conducted illegally, they constitute serious civil rights violations that demand accountability. Our work in this area has provided meaningful compensation to hundreds of individuals while establishing important precedents that protect the rights of all incarcerated persons.

#### Injuries from Civil Rights Violations

Under the leadership of Partner **Darren Seilback**, we have successfully recovered close to **one million dollars** on behalf of inmates who suffered injuries as a result of civil rights violations at Rikers Island. Darren spearheaded this critical work and was instrumental in



bringing justice to these clients. These cases involve serious harm caused by excessive force, denial of medical care, dangerous conditions, and other violations of inmates' constitutional rights. While incarcerated individuals have fewer freedoms, they do not surrender their fundamental right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment or to receive adequate medical care.

Each case we've handled represents a person who was harmed while in the custody of the Corrections Department—a system that has a legal duty to keep inmates safe. Our settlements have provided compensation for injuries, held officials accountable, and sent a clear message that violations of constitutional rights will not be tolerated.

#### Why This Work Matters

Civil rights cases involving incarcerated individuals are often overlooked or dismissed by society. However, the Constitution doesn't end at the jailhouse door. Inmates retain fundamental rights, and when those rights are violated, they deserve legal representation and justice just like anyone else.

Our success in these cases demonstrates that meaningful change is possible. By holding correction officials accountable for their actions, we not only compensate those who have been harmed but also create incentives for better policies, improved training, and more humane treatment of all individuals in custody.

#### A Commitment to Justice for All

Our work on behalf of Rikers Island inmates reflects our broader philosophy: justice matters for everyone, and civil rights must be protected regardless of a person's circumstances. We're proud of the results we've achieved in this challenging and often underappreciated area of law, and we remain committed to fighting for the constitutional rights of all people.

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

### CENTRAL LINE REMOVAL NEGLIGENCE

#### **\$3,500,000 Settlement**

This year saw several outstanding medical malpractice settlements. Partner [David Oddo](#) obtained \$3.5 million for a client who suffered a devastating hypoxic brain injury caused by hospital negligence. Medical staff improperly removed a central line, resulting in an [air embolus](#) that deprived our client's brain of oxygen. This catastrophic medical error transformed our client's life in an instant. The substantial settlement recognizes the severity of the injury and ensures our client will have the resources necessary for lifelong care and support.

### FAILURE TO MONITOR TRACHEOSTOMY

#### **\$1,900,000 Settlement**

In a complex and contentious case, we secured a \$1.9 million settlement against a New York City hospital for its devastating failure to properly monitor a patient's [tracheostomy tube](#). This lapse in basic patient care led to a catastrophic anoxic brain injury that permanently altered our client's life. The settlement will provide essential support for ongoing medical care and help the family navigate the challenges ahead. This case underscores the critical importance of proper post-surgical monitoring and the tragic consequences when healthcare providers fail in their fundamental duty of care.

## REPRESENTING SURVIVORS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

### Standing with Survivors, Seeking Accountability

Among the most meaningful work we do is representing survivors of child sexual abuse. These cases require not only legal expertise but also sensitivity, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to holding institutions accountable for their failures to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.







## Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse Cases

In 2025, we secured settlements totaling over **\$1.2 million** for three clients who were survivors of abuse by clergy within the [Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse](#). These cases were particularly complex, as the Diocese had filed for bankruptcy protection several years ago. Navigating bankruptcy proceedings while advocating for abuse survivors requires specialized knowledge and tenacity, but we were able to obtain meaningful compensation for our clients despite these challenges.

Each of these settlements represents years of pain and suffering that our clients endured, often in silence, before finding the courage to come forward. While no amount of money can undo the harm caused by childhood sexual abuse, these settlements provide validation, acknowledgment, and resources to support our clients' healing journeys.

## The Importance of the Child Victims Act

New York's Child Victims Act opened a critical window for survivors of childhood sexual abuse to seek justice, even for abuse that occurred decades ago. This legislation recognized that survivors often need years or even decades before they're able to come forward about their abuse. We have been proud to help survivors take advantage of this opportunity to hold their abusers and the institutions that protected them accountable.

## A Safe Space for Survivors

We understand that coming forward about childhood sexual abuse is one of the most challenging decisions a person can make. Our firm provides a safe, supportive, and confidential environment where survivors can share their stories and explore their legal options without judgment or pressure. We handle these cases with the utmost sensitivity and respect, always prioritizing our clients' well-being throughout the legal process.

## Continuing the Fight

Our work representing survivors of child sexual abuse is ongoing. We remain committed to pursuing justice for those who were harmed by trusted institutions and individuals who betrayed that trust. If you or someone you know is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse and would like to explore legal options, we encourage you to reach out for a confidential consultation.

## 9/11 VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND

### TOXIC EXPOSURE

#### **\$600,000 Settlement**



We secured a \$600,000 award from the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund for a client who suffered injuries from toxic exposure related to the World Trade Center attacks. This case reflects our commitment to serving those affected by one of our nation's greatest tragedies. Navigating the VCF claims process requires specialized knowledge and dedication, and we're honored to have helped our client obtain the compensation they deserve for their service and sacrifice.

## WELCOME TO THE TEAM: MICHAEL XENAKIS

We are proud to announce the addition of [Michael Xenakis](#) as a new associate. Michael brings his unwavering dedication and ferocious attitude to Oddo & Babat, relentlessly seeking justice for our clients.

Michael earned his Juris Doctorate from Touro Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. During and after law school, he gained valuable experience in the personal injury field, working for a busy trial law practice in Brooklyn. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from St. Francis College, where he was recognized with honors as a member of the prestigious Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society.

Michael's commitment to public service is evident in his completion of more than 200 hours of pro bono work, providing legal assistance to older adults in his community. His tenacious pursuit of justice and fairness for all, combined with a compassionate approach, ensures that every client receives personalized and high-quality representation.

Please join us in welcoming Michael to Oddo & Babat. We're excited to have him on our team as we continue fighting for justice on behalf of our clients.



## WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING ON Google Reviews



Thank you, Eric Babat, for all the help through this process. I would definitely recommend you to family and friends. Utmost professionalism; he always kept me informed and asked how I was doing, physically and emotionally, throughout my healing process...I'm still healing...But I'm genuinely grateful to be alive. I'm delighted with the outcome. I was surprised and ecstatic about my settlement. Thank you to your staff as well.- L. Genyard



Oddo & Babat P.C. delivered outstanding performance in my personal injury claim. Their commitment to my case resulted in a significant settlement. David Oddo went the extra mile. He is a highly skilled negotiator and a staunch advocate for his clients! His dedication, long hours, and personal support exceeded my highest expectations. I couldn't have asked for a better advocate.-Carol G



So impressed with Darren Seilback's representation. He fought to obtain for me a valuable award, communicated regularly with me throughout the process, answered all my questions with patience and thoughtfulness, diligently worked on my behalf, and conveyed that he understood the pain that the injury had caused me. His experience and knowledge showed through and helped me to obtain the best possible outcome in the case.

Jessica H



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

As we move into the New Year, our commitment remains unchanged: to provide exceptional legal representation to those harmed by others' negligence. Whether you have been injured as a result of a motor vehicle crash, medical negligence, workplace or construction accident, or any other act of negligence, we're here to help.

Thank you for your continued trust and referrals. If you have any questions about the cases highlighted here or would like to discuss a potential matter, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and happy 2026!

**David Oddo**

**Eric Babat**

**Darren Seilback**