

\$18 MILLION SETTLEMENT: Photographer Wins Justice After Devastating Forklift Accident



In 2021, during a Green Day concert at Citizens Bank Park, photographer Jake Chamseddine suffered life-threatening injuries when a runaway forklift hit him, crushing his femur and pelvis, nearly killing him. This tragic incident marked the beginning of a long and arduous journey for Jake and his family, but it also sparked a powerful legal battle led by the dedicated team at Stampone O’Brien Dilsheimer Holloway.

Jake’s case was anything but straightforward. It involved multiple defendants, including the Philadelphia Phillies, Live Nation, and the forklift operator’s employer. The complexity of the case required a meticulous and thorough investigation. Lead Attorney and Partner Kevin O’Brien, who met Jake’s family while he was still in a coma at Jefferson University Hospital, spearheaded the legal efforts. “From the moment I met Jake and his family, I knew we had to fight tirelessly for them. Their strength and positivity through this ordeal have been truly inspiring,” O’Brien reflected.

To tackle the case’s complexities, Kevin brought in attorney Tyler Stampone, who led the initial investigation, and later, attorney Brock Atkins, who was

recruited into the firm for his extensive trial experience. “We had to navigate through numerous entities to ensure justice for Jake,” Stampone explained. The case quickly escalated, necessitating various inspections and expert consultations. “Coordinating a global settlement was challenging, given the reluctance of defendants to accept their share of responsibility. But we knew what needed to be done to secure Jake’s future,” Atkins added.

Throughout the legal battle, Jake’s resilience and positive outlook shone brightly. His personality and passion for life left a lasting impression on everyone involved. World-famous musicians and notable figures from the music industry offered to testify on Jake’s behalf, underscoring the respect and admiration he garnered in his professional circles. Jake, who had worked extensively with rock groups, was not just a talented photographer but a beloved figure among his peers.

The treating physician, who played a crucial role in Jake’s recovery, had such an extraordinary relationship with Jake that he did not want to be paid for his time giving testimony. This gesture highlighted the deep personal connections Jake formed throughout his journey.

As the trial unfolded, compelling testimony from witnesses, including Jake’s friends and family, provided a powerful narrative. The emotional weight of the trial was immense, with testimonies highlighting the severity of Jake’s injuries and the profound impact on his life.

Finally, after a grueling seven-day trial in Philadelphia, Jake received the justice he deserved with an \$18 million settlement. This monumental outcome provided Jake with the financial stability he needs to continue his recovery and rebuild his life. “This outcome will help provide the ongoing care, support, and stability our client deserves as he rebuilds his life,” said O’Brien. “While no amount can undo the pain he has endured, we’re grateful to have stood by him every step of the way.”

The relief and gratitude felt by Jake's family were palpable. Stampone and Atkins recounted, "Walking with Jake's mother after the settlement, she expressed immense gratitude for the security it provided. Jake is not just a client; he's part of our family now."

Stampone O'Brien Dilsheimer Holloway is proud to have been part of Jake's journey to justice.

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