



**February 2024**

**ONLY ACCIDENT &  
INJURY CASES**



**\$1,382,500.00**

## John DeGasperis Obtains Seven-Figure Verdict for Greene County Farmworker

In early February a jury awarded damages in the amount of \$1,382,500.00 to a Greene County man after an injury sustained while working on a farm. This case was vigorously defended, but in the end justice was served for the plaintiff. John DeGasperis handled this matter on behalf of Basch & Keegan. Basch & Keegan, Here to Help after an accident or injury.

## Nominate Basch & Keegan for Best Law Firm!

The Chronogrammmies Reader Choice Awards are back for 2024!! For the past 3 years we have been in the top 2 for Best Law Firm, and with your help we can do it again. Remember, you can vote **EVERY DAY**. This year, your voice has the power to make a significant impact by nominating Basch & Keegan as the Best Law Firm in these esteemed awards.

The first step is nominations, you can nominate us for readers' choice of Best Law Firm from January 1st - February 15th! The more nominations we get, the closer we are to moving on in the voting round. Voting round is open on April 1st - May 15th. The Winners will be announced in the July issue of Chronogram Magazine.

Scan the QR code below the nominate us now, and bookmark the page to vote daily. From everyone at Basch & Keegan, thank you for helping us win Best Law Firm!



# Derek J. Spada Receives Six-Figure Verdict for Property Damage at a Church



Derek J. Spada received a favorable verdict from a bench trial in Ulster County. His client was a local church. The rectory was severely damaged when a water main going into an apartment complex across the street broke. The pipe leaked underground for 4 days before being discovered and turned off. The water that flowed through the pipe was substantial because it carried water to 59 apartments.

For the first 3 days there was no water at all in the rectory and it remained dry. However, the water kept spreading underground as it continued to leak from the broken pipe.

On the fourth day, the rectory basement experienced a pressurized flood that came in from all sides of the house. All 4 foundation walls cracked and bowed inward. The damage was catastrophic and caused damage to the foundation, slab, structural support, electrical system and plumbing fixtures.

The issue with this case was whether the apartment complex was liable or not. Previous laws and courts have upheld for years that an underground water pipe does not ordinarily break unless there is negligence. Therefore, Derek argued that there must have been some kind of negligence on the apartment complex, and the pipe was either improperly installed or someone drove it over it because it was in the lawn. Derek also argued that the broken pipe should have been discovered earlier because the leak would have affected the water pressure in the apartment complex.

Derek used case law to prove that the apartment complex was liable, and the damage caused to the rectory was due to their negligence. An Ulster County judge agreed and awarded our client a six-figure settlement for the damages.





# Upstate & Litigate, Episode 13: Wrongful Death Claims

**NEW  
EPISODE**



This month attorneys Derek Spada & John DeGasperis discussed wrongful death claims, and the outdated laws in New York surrounding these claims. You can watch Episode 13 of Upstate & Litigate on YouTube or listen to the show on Spotify of Apple Podcast.

New episodes of Upstate & Litigate are released the first Tuesday of every month. Scan the QR codes to watch or listen!



**UPSTATE & LITIGATE**  
BASCH & KEEGAN

Ask us a  
legal  
question!

Ask Us! HERE TO HELP

Every month we produce a videocast for educational purposes! We would like to hear from you, and what questions you have.

## Ask Us a Legal Question!

We want to hear from you! Is there a question you have in mind that you would like Derek & John to answer on the next podcast? Please let us know! Scan the QR code below and fill the form out on our website. We can't wait to hear from you!



## COMMUNITY NEWS & Local Events

## Basch & Keegan is Here to Help the Community.

### Here is a List of Upcoming Sponsorships:

- **D.R.A.W. Kingston 2nd Annual Jell-O Jamboree:** February 17th, 5pm-8pm, The Fuller Building at 45 Pine Grove Avenue in Kingston. Learn more, buy tickets or apply to participate as an artist at their website: [drawkingston.org](http://drawkingston.org) !
- **Benedictine Health Foundation 6th Annual Ski Benefit:** March 7th at Plattekill Mountain, Private Skiing & Snowboarding. Learn more at: [benedictinehealthfoundation.org](http://benedictinehealthfoundation.org) !
- **36th Annual Shamrock Run:** March 10th at 12:50pm, Academy Green Start Line in Kingston. Basch & Keegan will be handing out bandannas at the start line again! Learn more at: [shamrockrun.org](http://shamrockrun.org) !

*As a law firm, we contribute to many local charities and sponsor community events. We love to get involved in what's going on in Kingston, and we love to get out and see our neighbors at local events. If you have an event coming up and are seeking sponsorships, tell us about it by scanning the QR code and filling out the form on our website!*

