



GUIDE TO
**ASBESTOS
INJURY**
CLAIMS IN
OHIO

MH
McDERMOTT
HICKEY, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EXPERIENCE. INTEGRITY. RESULTS.

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For over 30 years, the attorneys at McDermott-Hickey have been successfully representing victims of asbestos exposure across Ohio.

WHAT IS ASBESTOS ?

Asbestos is a group of minerals that are resistant to heat and fire and do not conduct electricity. Because of these qualities, manufacturers began incorporating asbestos on a massive scale beginning in the late 1800's.

RAW ASBESTOS FIBERS



TYPES OF ASBESTOS DISEASE

MESOTHELIOMA

Every year thousands of workers are diagnosed with Mesothelioma. The only known cause of this deadly cancer is exposure to asbestos. Mesothelioma usually strikes in the lining of the lung (pleura) or the abdominal cavity (peritoneum). Even a brief exposure to asbestos dust can cause Mesothelioma. This latent disease can strike 20 to 30 years after the last exposure to asbestos has occurred. Unfortunately, asbestos dust brought home on a worker's clothing puts spouses and children of workers at risk.

ASBESTOS LUNG CANCER

Asbestos is a potent carcinogen which can cause all types of lung cancer. Like Mesothelioma, asbestos lung cancer can develop decades after the victim's last exposure to asbestos. Many workers who were exposed to asbestos also smoked cigarettes. This combination of smoking and asbestos exposure greatly increases the risk of contracting lung cancer. A worker exposed to asbestos who also smoked is still entitled to seek compensation for his asbestos related lung cancer.

ASBESTOSIS

Asbestosis is a non-malignant scarring in the lungs caused by breathing asbestos fibers. While for the most part invisible to the human eye, asbestos fibers are very hard and sharp and cause scar tissue to develop in the lungs. This scarred lung area is no longer able to do its job of providing oxygen to the body causing the victim to be short of breath. There is no cure for asbestosis and it can get progressively worse even after the exposure to asbestos has stopped. The health effects of asbestosis can range in severity from mild shortness of breath to total disability requiring the victim to be on oxygen 24/7.

OHIO'S ASBESTOS LEGACY

Ohio has been hit hard by the asbestos disease epidemic due our state's history of heavy industry and widespread use of asbestos containing products. Below are just a sampling of trades and jobsites effected by asbestos.

TRADES WITH HEAVY EXPOSURE TO ASBESTOS



PIPEFITTERS
PLUMBERS
BOILERMAKERS
PAINTERS
CARPENTERS
STEELWORKERS
RAILROAD WORKERS

INSULATORS
FOUNDRYMEN
LABORERS
ELECTRICIANS
AUTOWORKERS
SEAMEN
MOLDERS

JOBSITES WITH HEAVY EXPOSURE TO ASBESTOS



STEELMILLS FOUNDRIES
PAPER MILLS
RUBBER / TIRE PLANTS
PLASTIC MOLDING PLANTS

POWERHOUSES
CHEMICAL PLANTS
AUTO PLANTS
RAILYARDS

OTHER AREAS OF HEAVY EXPOSURE TO ASBESTOS



PLASTIC MOLDING

Asbestos fibers were added to plastic molding compounds well into the 1980's which has created a whole new generation of asbestos disease victims. Asbestos acted as a reinforcing and fireproofing agent in the finished molded products. Workers in plastic molding plants across Ohio were exposed to large amounts of asbestos dust with absolutely no warnings about the hazards they faced. Molded Products Containing Asbestos:

Car & Truck Parts	Terminal Boards and Blocks
Electrical Switches	Appliances
Arc Chutes for Motors	Aerospace Parts
	And Numerous Others

ASBESTOS EXPOSURE IN PLASTIC MOLDING PLANTS

Asbestos exposure occurred from the start of the plastic molding process and ended in the finishing department. Bags and barrels of asbestos containing molding compounds were opened in the preform department and dumped into hoppers causing large amounts of dust. Molded parts made their way to the finishing departments where they were hand-sanded by workers which exposed the finishers to large amounts of asbestos dust. Brooms and air hoses were often used to clean up dust and debris throughout the plant which added to the dust hazard. This asbestos dust hazard existed in plants that used injection molding processes as well as compression molding processes.



HOUSEHOLD EXPOSURE

Many victims of asbestos disease were not exposed in the workplace but rather in their own homes. These exposure include:
Exposure to asbestos brought home on a workers clothes which is then handled and washed by family members

- Exposure to asbestos during home remodeling (floor tiles / joint compound)
- Exposure to asbestos during automobile repairs (asbestos brakes / clutches)
- Exposure to materials used in hobbies such as ceramic work, pottery making or gardening



NAVY EXPOSURE

Many Navy veterans were heavily exposed to asbestos while serving our country which has led to high rates of mesothelioma among sailors especially those stationed below deck in the engine rooms. Exposures occurred at sea and also during overhauls while in dry-dock. We have helped many Navy Veterans suffering from asbestos related diseases recover compensation.



BODY TALCS AND POWDERS

Many body talcs and powders widely marketed and used across the country were contaminated with asbestos fibers. Millions of Americans unknowingly exposed themselves to asbestos dust on a daily basis while applying these body powders.

**NEVER
AN ATTORNEY FEE
UNLESS WE WIN**

A lot of our clients were originally hesitant to pursue compensation because they were concerned about the “cost of hiring attorneys.” We will represent you on a contingent - fee basis. That means we don’t get paid unless we’re successful in obtaining compensation for you.

We understand many of our clients have difficulty traveling so we are happy to meet with you at your home or wherever it’s most convenient for you.

**WHEREVER
YOU ARE
WE COME TO YOU**

**DON’T WAIT
YOU MAY LOSE
YOUR RIGHTS**

Ohio has what’s called a STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS which requires you to bring your claim within a certain time period. Generally, you have 2 years from the date you are told that you have an asbestos related injury and/or 2 years from the date of death from an asbestos injury in which to bring your claim. HOWEVER, there are exceptions to the general “2 year rule” so it is important to consult with an experienced asbestos attorney regarding the Statute of Limitations even if you think it may be too late to bring a claim.

OUR 3-PRONGED STRATEGY FOR YOUR FINANCIAL COMPENSATION



1 BANKRUPTCY TRUST CLAIMS

Many of the major asbestos companies who are responsible for exposing Ohio workers to deadly asbestos dust have sought protection in Federal Bankruptcy Courts. As part of the bankruptcy process these companies have been required to set up Trusts to pay victims. The Trust process requires evidence of exposure as well as evidence of an asbestos injury. This is not an easy process but McDermott-Hickey has developed the knowledge and expertise in navigating the various Trust requirements to obtain compensation for our clients who were exposed to and injured by products covered under the Trust.

Bankruptcy Trust claims can be a good choice for clients who wish to receive compensation but do not want to go through all the requirements of a traditional lawsuit in court.

2 WORKER'S COMPENSATION CLAIM

If you are exposed to asbestos at work and develop an asbestos disease you may be entitled to bring a claim under Ohio's Worker's Compensation Laws. If successful, a Workers Compensation claim may pay for medical bills and also pay a

**LOST WAGE BENEFIT EVEN IF YOU ARE RETIRED
AT THE TIME YOU GET SICK.**

If the worker dies from an asbestos related disease then the widow can be paid lost wage benefits twice monthly for the rest of her life

EVEN IF THE WORKER WAS RETIRED AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

The workers' compensation claims process can be complex, especially in the case of asbestos related lung diseases, and it's important that you have an experienced attorney on your side who can guide you through the process. At McDermott & Hickey, LLC, we can assist you in filing a claim for workers' compensation and begin getting you the medical care you need and replacement for your lost wages.

3 LAWSUIT

If you were exposed to and injured by asbestos containing products that were manufactured or supplied by a company that is still in business and is not covered by any Asbestos Bankruptcy Trust then you can file a traditional lawsuit against that company. The attorneys at McDermott-Hickey have been successfully representing asbestos victims in Ohio courtrooms for decades. We have the knowledge, experience and the resources to bring your case forward against even the largest asbestos companies.

WHY **MH** McDermott Hickey?

There is no shortage of people on TV and the Internet holding themselves out to be "Mesothelioma Lawyers." The truth is that most of these people are marketers who have no intention of personally representing you and your family. Most of these

"marketers are not licensed in Ohio and have never stood in an Ohio courtroom and spoke on behalf of a mesothelioma victim. These marketers have also never stood in front of the Ohio Supreme Court and Ohio Legislature on behalf of injured Ohioans.

**THE LAWYERS AT MCDERMOTT HICKEY
HAVE BEEN DOING JUST THAT FOR
OVER 30 YEARS.**



OHIO ATTORNEYS NATIONWIDE NETWORK

Recognizing that our clients may have been exposed to asbestos in several different states, McDermott & Hickey works with a nationwide network of top law firms representing victims of asbestos

exposure across the country. This allows our clients to have additional representation and maximize their compensation without incurring any additional attorney fees.



EXPERIENCE. INTEGRITY. RESULTS.

The purpose of this guide is to give readers basic information regarding Asbestos Injury Claims in Ohio. While the Guide contains a lot of helpful information it is by no means a substitution for sitting down and discussing your case with an attorney who is experienced in asbestos litigation.

If you or a loved one have been injured
by asbestos exposure

**Call Toll Free at (877) 303-6379
for a free consultation.**

There is no obligation. We simply want you to have the information you need. Call me today.

Christopher J. Hickey
Partner/Attorney

chip@mesohio.com



MH

McDERMOTT
HICKEY, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

20525 Center Ridge Rd. # 200

Rocky River, OH 44116

Toll Free: (877) 303-6379

Local: (216) 712-7452

WWW.MESOHIO.COM