

Aviation Litigation

Corboy & Demetrio's aviation litigation attorneys have helped victims and their families in nearly every major U.S. and several foreign aviation and airplane crash disasters since 1979 and our work has resulted in top and record-setting aviation settlements. Our highly successful and skilled aviation team of lawyers has experience in all areas of aviation and plane crash cases - pilot negligence, airline liability, manufacturers negligence, suppliers liability, government liability, jurisdictional issues, and liability apportionment.

Partner Thomas Demetrio, who secured the record-setting compensatory settlement of \$25.2 million for the death of an airplane passenger, has been hailed by the prestigious legal news center and directory, *Lawdragon* as the "powerhouse" of aviation law and said, "when tragedy strikes, the families of plane crash victims have no greater ally."

We promptly and thoroughly investigate all aspects of aviation cases to determine fault and assess liability. Our attorneys work with injured individuals and their families to help them secure fair and *full* compensation for their loss and injuries.

Our experience in personal injury and wrongful death cases has resulted in top verdicts and settlements in many areas. Our clients have been well served - we have secured more than **\$3 billion** in verdicts and settlements and have attained nearly 600 verdicts and settlements in excess of \$1 million.

Aviation Record of Success

Tom Demetrio acquired the **largest compensatory damages settlement - \$25.2 million** - for the death of a passenger in the USAir jet crash outside Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was the **top settlement** for the death of a person in a commercial aviation wrongful death action at the time. The previous **top record, a \$25 million** settlement in a case stemming from the crash of a United Airlines jet in Sioux City, Iowa, was also acquired by Corboy &

Attorneys

- Robert J. Bingle
- Philip Harnett Corboy Jr.
- Michael K. Demetrio
- Thomas A. Demetrio
- William T. Gibbs
- Shawn S. Kasserman
- Daniel S. Kirschner
- Daniel M. Kotin
- Francis Patrick Murphy

Demetrio several years before the USAir record.

Leaders in Aviation Litigation

In many major aviation cases, our attorneys have been appointed lead counsel by the court.

We served as **plaintiffs' lead counsel** in a consolidated case involving the crash of a USAir jet outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in which all passengers and crew members were killed. Five of the final cases in the crash settled for **over \$54 million**.

Corboy & Demetrio was **appointed lead plaintiffs' counsel** for the United Airlines jet crash at Sioux City, Iowa and the firm represented 38 passengers or their survivors in lawsuits filed as a result of the tragedy. In one of the worst aviation disaster in history, Corboy & Demetrio was also **appointed lead counsel** for the American Airlines flight 191 crash at O'Hare International Airport where 271 people on board and two people on the ground were killed.

Tom Demetrio and Michael Demetrio served as **lead counsels** in litigation stemming from the crash of an American Eagle plane near Morrisville, North Carolina, and as one of the **lead plaintiffs' counsel** in the American Eagle crash that occurred near Roselawn, Indiana.

In other publicized cases, Tom Demetrio represented a widow whose husband was killed with musician Jim Croce in a plane crash, as well as the family of musician Stevie Ray Vaughan, who lost his life in a helicopter crash.

Our experience in international airplane crashes includes the representation of families of victims in the crash of a Paris-bound TWA jet off the coast of Long Island, as well as in the crashes of an Aero-Peru flight near Lima, Peru, and an American Airlines jet near Cali, Columbia.

Aviation Speakers and Authors

In addition to litigating aviation lawsuits, our attorneys are featured speakers on aviation litigation at legal seminars and write articles for other attorneys on the legal intricacies of aviation cases.

Attorney Michael Demetrio was a featured speaker at the legal seminar, "Anatomy of an Aviation Case," where he discussed the evaluation, analysis, decision-making and presentation skills needed in an aviation case. Last year he addressed lawyers at the American Bar Association's Aviation Litigation Seminar in New York on the importance of an opening statement in an airplane crash trial.

Tom Demetrio and his brother, Michael Demetrio, authored the article "Beyond the Thunder," published in *Trial*, a national publication for trial lawyers. The article discusses the role weather can play in an airplane crash and advises personal injury lawyers on how to address and deal with weather issues in an airplane crash case. Michael Demetrio is also the author of a chapter in "Aviation - Causes of Action," published by the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education.

Community Involvement

Along with being involved in the litigation of commercial and private aviation disasters, the firm supports and contributes to the National Air Disaster Alliance/Foundation, an organization that addresses the needs of survivors and those affected by airline disasters.

Our representation includes but is not limited to the following areas: Aircraft Accidents Aviation Accidents Aircraft Negligence Aviation Litigation Aircraft Litigation Commercial, Business & Private Aircraft Airplane Negligence

Helicopter Crash Litigation

Airplane Crash Litigation

Plane Accidents

International Aviation Law

Plane Crashes