

# Peter J. Gough, Esq.



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## AREAS OF PRACTICE:

- Workers' Compensation
- PA Heart and Lung Act
- Act 534/632 Benefits

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Peter J. Gough is an associate at the firm and concentrates his practice in the area of workers' compensation, Heart and Lung and Act 534/632 benefits. He exclusively represents injured workers. Peter is one of few attorneys who successfully passed the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania certification test, making him a Certified Specialist of Workers' Compensation law.

Born in Brooklyn New York and a graduate of The State University of New York at Buffalo, Peter J. Gough came to the Pittsburgh area to achieve his J.D. from Duquesne Law School. He fell in love with Western Pennsylvania and has been practicing civil litigation and workers' compensation since 1990.

Peter has written and lectured on workers' compensation throughout Pennsylvania for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and The Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation. Peter is a co-author to the Pennsylvania Bar Institute publication Fee Agreements in Pennsylvania, Workers Compensation Chapter. A member of the Pennsylvania, Westmoreland, and Allegheny Bar Associations, Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association, and American Inns of Court, Peter is admitted to practice before the courts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Within two years of being admitted to the bar, Peter tackled the then newly developing area of psychological injuries in the work place. He successfully convinced the Commonwealth Court that if a work-related psychological disability is associated with physical injury, the injured worker need only prove the basic requirements of a workers' compensation claim; that the injury arose out of and was related to the employment. He successfully argued that a heightened burden of proof does not apply, making it easier for workers who sustain injuries such as post traumatic stress disorder to receive their deserved benefits. *Bell v. WCAB (Allegheny County Housing Department)*, 620 A.2d 589 (1993).

In the case of *HCR ManorCare v. WCAB (Bollman)*, 951 A.2d 1242 (2008) the Commonwealth Court agreed with Peter's arguments that a medical provider's failure to provide medical records as part of procedure to determine if the treatment is reasonable and necessary does not necessarily relieve the insurance company from paying the bills. The Court adapted Peter's position that the Judge has jurisdiction to determine if the proper procedures were followed and if not, why they were not. The Court also agreed that the Judge has the authority to order a whole new procedure. This important decision saved many injured workers from getting stuck with medical bills caused by their work injuries.

Peter has been a proud Board Member of Kids' Chance of Pennsylvania since 2013 and serves on the Scholarship, Outreach, and Run/Walk Committees.

Peter now lives in Penn Township and can frequently be seen hiking the trails of Western Pennsylvania with his beautiful daughter. Peter's other passions include music, running, skiing and mountain biking.

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court Western District of PA, 1990

## EDUCATION

- Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA  
J.D. - 1990
- University of Buffalo  
B.A. - 1984  
Honors: With Honors

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Westmoreland County Bar Association, Member
- Pennsylvania Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- Allegheny County Bar Association, Workers' Compensation Section, Member