



## **Use of Highly Trained and Skilled Union Mechanics Reduces Risk of Elevator and Escalator Accidents, New York Personal Injury Attorney Says**

*NYC attorney Steven J. Schwartzapfel, a New York City Elevator/Escalator Accident Lawyer says that often unscrupulous building owners focus on profit over public safety when it comes to maintaining, repairing or replacing elevators and escalators.*

New York, NY ([PRWEB](#)) December 9, 2010 -- Poorly maintained elevators and escalators often lead New York City elevator and escalator riders to serious injury or even death, says [Steven J. Schwartzapfel](#) during the recent National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week.

“All too often, unscrupulous building owners put profit over public safety when maintaining, repairing or replacing these elevators and escalators,” says Schwartzapfel, whose [personal injury law firm](#), Schwartzapfel Partners, P.C., represents consumers injured or killed in elevator or escalator accidents throughout New York City.

“Unfortunately, when a slumlord cuts corners, it often leads to consumers -- men, women, children and the elderly -- suffering head injuries, broken bones, fractured arms and hips, and in the worst cases, death,” Schwartzapfel says.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 11,000 people are hurt each year when elevators malfunction and another 10,000 people go to the emergency room as the result of defective escalators. NY1 News reports that there are more than 60,000 elevators and 2,200 escalators in New York City alone.

These elevator accidents and escalator accidents occur even though this equipment is subject to strict safety laws and regulations. According to Schwartzapfel, many of these accidents result as property owners look to save money by cutting corners and skimping on repairs, maintenance and replacement.

Elevator riders often suffer injuries when the elevator cab doesn't stop in line with a floor, gets stuck between floors or plummets causing serious injury to the rider. Escalator accidents frequently involve defective or loose metal teeth that hook onto shoes, clothing or fingers.

“By properly maintaining, repairing and/or replacing this equipment and using highly trained and skilled union mechanics, property owners and landlords greatly reduce the risk of these accidents,” Schwartzapfel says. “Making sure the elevator or escalator is safe is a basic duty that a building owner owes to the public.”

If a person is injured due to a defective elevator or escalator, Schwartzapfel suggests contacting an experienced [elevator accident](#) or [escalator accident attorney](#) to learn more about how to hold a negligent building owner or landlord accountable for any injuries suffered, and to recover money for medical expenses, lost wages and pain and suffering.

About Schwartzapfel Partners P.C.

The New York personal injury law firm of Schwartzapfel Partners P.C. has over a 98 percent success rate in



representing thousands of clients involving all types of legal matters. With more than 150 years of combined legal experience, the firm focuses on all types of personal injury litigation, including elevator accidents, escalator accidents, premises liability, vehicle accidents (car, truck, motorcycle, bicycle and pedestrian) medical malpractice, wrongful death, defective products and drugs, construction accidents, workplace accidents, workers' compensation, Social Security disability, and nursing home neglect and abuse.

To contact the law firm, call 1.800.966.4999 or use the firm's [online contact form](#).

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