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## SZAFERMAN LAKIND SECURES \$90.5 MILLION IN JUDGMENTS FOR MESOTHELIOMA VICTIMS

**Wednesday, September 3, 2014 - Lawrenceville, NJ:** In late June 2014, the law firm of [Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein & Blader, P.C.](#), was successful in securing \$90,500,000.00 in judgments against Eternit AG on behalf of eleven men and women who contracted mesothelioma. The Court awarded damages to each family for the pain and suffering of the victims and loss of consortium to their spouses.

The plaintiffs were employees of Johns Manville, family members of employees, or individuals who lived in Manville. They had two main obstacles that we were able to help them overcome in order to obtain compensation for the injuries they had suffered. First, those clients who worked at the Johns Manville Facility in Manville, New Jersey, were prohibited by workers compensation law from securing any compensatory damages from their employer. Second, those clients who were related to a Johns Manville worker, or who lived in the area of the plant, were unable to obtain any compensation for their injuries from Johns Manville because the company filed for bankruptcy. We helped our clients overcome these hurdles by identifying the defendant, a European corporation, as a supplier of asbestos to the Johns Manville facility.



**Arnold C. Lakind**  
*Co-Founder, Partner*  
Szaferman Lakind

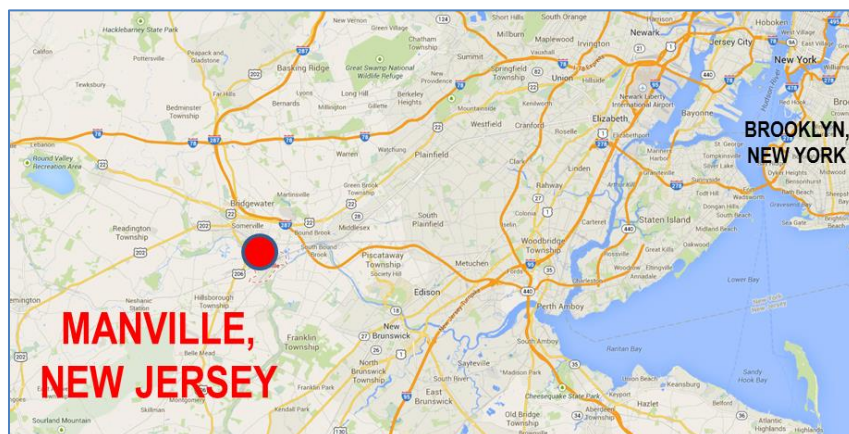


**Robert E. Lytle**  
*Partner, Executive Committee*  
Szaferman Lakind



**Robert G. Stevens**  
*Attorney*  
Szaferman Lakind

Szaferman Lakind's Mesothelioma Group, consisting of attorneys Arnold Lakind, Bob Lytle, Bob Stevens and paralegals John Kane and Maria Masiello, were able to locate Johns Manville's asbestos suppliers, including Eternit AG, a Swiss corporation. In 2012, two Eternit executives, family heir Stephan Schmidheiny and Belgian billionaire Baron Louis de Cartier de Marchienne, were convicted for their mining and sale of asbestos and held responsible for the deaths of some 3,000 people. In the years since it was a Johns Manville supplier, Eternit had transformed itself, and other plaintiffs had encountered significant difficulties in identifying the proper defendants and prosecuting cases in New Jersey.



Szaferman Lakind's Mesothelioma Group was able to develop an argument that permitted plaintiffs to sue Eternit's successor, ANOVA HOLDINGS AG: An international asbestos conglomerate which mined the mineral primarily in South Africa and sold it worldwide 1950 - 1980.

Attorneys for the Johns Manville families utilized international treaty procedures and served Anova with the complaints. On June 26, 2014, after Hague Convention and Proof Hearings procedures, the Court awarded \$90.5 million in damages to the eleven families.

To learn more about Szaferman Lakind's Mesothelioma Group, visit [Szaferman.com/Mesothelioma](http://Szaferman.com/Mesothelioma) or call **609.275.0400** today.

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## ABOUT THE FIRM

Founded in 1977 and based in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, [Szaferman Lakind](http://Szaferman.com) is a full service law firm which holds Martindale-Hubbell's™ highest rating of AV, and has been ranked a Tier-1 Law Firm by *U.S. News & World Report* in its 2014 Best Law Firms edition. The firm is proud to have been recognized by *New York Magazine* as one of the New York Area's Top Ranked Law Firms. Szaferman Lakind consists of four primary practice groups: general litigation, family law, personal injury and business. Tel: 1.609.275.0400 [www.Szaferman.com](http://www.Szaferman.com)