

# **New York Jury Awards Family of Construction Worker \$15 Million in Mesothelioma Verdict against Kaiser Gypsum**

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*Simmons Hanly Conroy attorneys secure justice for family of New York and New Jersey construction worker who died from mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos-containing joint compound.*

NEW YORK (July 18, 2022) – [Simmons Hanly Conroy](#), one of the nation’s largest mesothelioma law firms, has won a \$15 million verdict against Kaiser Gypsum on behalf of the family of Munir Seen, a New York and New Jersey construction worker who died in 2019 of mesothelioma, a rare and fatal cancer caused by asbestos exposure.

The jury found Kaiser Gypsum acted with reckless disregard for the safety of others and awarded \$15 million in total damages to the Seen family.

“After carefully considering the evidence, the jury found Kaiser Gypsum was responsible for causing Mr. Seen’s mesothelioma,” said Shareholder [Daniel P. Blouin](#), who served as lead trial attorney.

In addition to Blouin, Simmons Hanly Conroy Shareholders [Donald P. Blydenburgh](#), [Randy S. Cohn](#), [James R. Huss](#) and [Olivia Kelly](#) represented the Seen Family in New York County Supreme Court before the Hon. Suzanne Adams.

Mr. Seen was regularly exposed to asbestos from the 1960s through the 1980s while working as a construction worker throughout New York and New Jersey. He would mix the defendant’s powdery joint compound with water before applying it to drywall. Following the manufacturer’s directions, he sanded the product to achieve a smooth surface, generating significant asbestos-contaminated dust.

“Mr. Seen was a good man who made all the right choices so he and his family could live the American Dream,” said Blouin. “No amount of money can bring back Mr. Munir, but the evidence was clear and the verdict was fair.”

Looking to provide a better life for his family, Mr. Seen immigrated from Jordan to the United States in the late 1960s. In 2016, he was diagnosed with mesothelioma after experiencing shortness of breath. He continued to work as a security guard until he was forced to retire early. He passed away in 2019 at age 69.

He left behind two grown children, Sinar and Sirsa, with whom he was very close and four grandchildren. He left many items incomplete on his bucket list, including walking his granddaughters down the aisle, attending his grandson’s sports games, and visiting Niagara Falls.

“I lost my best friend. I lost my dad. I lost a part of me,” said Sinar Seen, his son, during his testimony at trial. “I just want to call him and hear his voice again.”

“When it came to losing my dad, I lost the source of wisdom in my life,” said Munir’s daughter Sirsa Seen during her testimony.

The verdict is the second mesothelioma verdict Simmons Hanly Conroy won in two days last week and the eleventh won in the last five years. The trial lasted 3 weeks, and the jury deliberated for forty-five minutes. The verdict took place on Friday, July 15.

### **About Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC**

*Simmons Hanly Conroy, with nearly 250 employees, including 85 attorneys practicing nationwide, is one of the country's largest plaintiff law firms dedicated to holding corporations responsible for wrongdoing. Primary areas of litigation include mesothelioma and asbestos, pharmaceutical and medical device injuries, consumer protection class actions, environmental injuries and protection, and complex personal injury. The firm's attorneys have been appointed to leadership in numerous national multidistrict litigations, including prescription opioids, Vioxx, Toyota unintended acceleration, BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, DePuy Pinnacle and the Volkswagen emission scandal. Since 1999, the firm has secured \$10 billion in verdicts and settlements for thousands of clients nationwide and is a major supporter of asbestos-related cancer research. Offices are located in Alton, Ill.; Los Angeles; New York City; San Francisco; and St. Louis. Read more at [www.simmonsfirm.com](http://www.simmonsfirm.com).*