Ronai & Ronai, LLP

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Holly Ostrov Ronai, Esq. (Photo: Statia Grossman)

s the founders of Ronai & Ronai, LLP, Holly Ostrov Ronai and her husband Peter Ronai strive to make a difference for plaintiffs in personal injury cases. For 17 years they have exclusively represented injured people and their families, achieving significant results in high-profile cases.

In 2012, Ronai & Ronai, LLP secured a \$17 million settlement in a wrongful death case involving two Hungarian students who were killed in a 2010 duck boat crash along the Delaware River. "We became very close with the families we represented in that case, which is characteristic of our firm," Holly says. "I have clients who I'm

still in touch with a decade after their cases ended."

Recently, the firm filed a \$6 million lawsuit against three airlines for the husband of a 400-pound Bronx woman who died overseas after she was denied a flight back to the United States. In addition, they are representing a man who—because he was wrongfully imprisoned on drug charges—missed his deadline to extend his visa and is now being threatened with deportation.

"Many lawyers wouldn't have taken these cases because they are costly and risky, but we feel that they are both good causes," Holly says. "After doing this for over 17 years, we don't just take cases to make money for our firm—we want to make a real difference for our clients and try to make them as close to whole again as possible."

Both attorneys have focused on plaintiffs' personal injury throughout their careers, though Holly notes that being a woman and working in this area of the law has presented some challenges. "The field of personal injury on the whole is predominantly male," she says. "It's not unusual for me to be up against four or five male defense attorneys. In the beginning they would underestimate me, but now they know who I am and that I am tougher than any male attorney out there."

Today, Holly is a member of the elite Million Dollar and Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forums, but she hasn't forgotten where she came from: "I'm just a girl from Queens who put herself through law school and I never forget that," she says, "which is why my work on behalf of accident victims is about more than just making money for me, it's about

helping people who don't have power or money and need a strong voice."