



Nancy Ralph

Partner

Plaintiff Personal Injury Practice Group

Contact Information

Direct Phone: 416.601.2677

Direct Fax: 416.601.2746

E-mail: nralph@lerners.ca

Website: www.lerners.ca

Address: 130 Adelaide St. West, Suite 2400, P.O. Box 95, Toronto, ON M5H 3P5

Areas of Practice

Plaintiff Personal Injury Law

Noteworthy Cases

[*Sandhu v. Wellington*](#) – This case involved a two year old boy who suffered a severe brain injury after falling from a fifth storey window. A jury awarded \$13 million. The judge awarded \$1,795,000 for future guardianship costs and legal costs. The verdict was upheld by the Ontario Court of Appeal. This case, which was decided by jury, is the second highest known jury trial result of a personal injury case in Canadian History.

[*Marcoccia v. Ford*](#) – The case involved a motor vehicle accident, which resulted in one party receiving a severe brain injury. The jury awarded \$15,650,182. The judge awarded \$1,265,816 for future guardianship costs and legal costs. This case also decided by a jury, is the highest known personal injury trial verdict in Canadian history.

Professional Experience

Partner, Lerners LLP (2008 to present)

Owner and Lead Counsel, Nancy Ralph & Associates (1996 - 2008)

Achievements

Ontario Psychological Association in recognition of outstanding contributions to the psychological well-being of citizens of Ontario (2000)

Ontario Brain Injury Association Award for exemplary professional and personal support of individuals with brain injuries (1998)

Certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a Specialist in Civil Litigation (1994)

A Selection of Presentations/Publications

Nancy has written and spoken extensively on matters related to the current insurance legislation, development of and proof of damages in personal injury cases, both to the legal profession and to rehabilitation professionals.

Educational articles by Nancy Ralph:

- [Determining Catastrophic Impairment of Survivors of Brain Injury – For accidents on or after October 1, 2003](#)
- [The Law and Your Legal Representation Following Personal Injury](#)
- [Time Lines under the Bill 198 SABS](#)
- [Expert Report Writing for Brain Injury Cases](#)
- [The Expert's Dilemma](#)
- [Challenges of Developing Paediatric Brain Injury Cases](#)
- [Guardianship under the Substitute Decisions Act](#)
- [Development and Proof of Future Costs of Care for Tort Trials](#)
- [Claiming and Quantifying Damages for Care](#)
- [Building the case for damages for brain-injured victims](#)
- [Future supported living costs and their proof at trial](#)

Client Testimonials

"We have found Miss Ralph to be compassionate, empathetic, and understanding in assessing the long term effects of trauma on all family members. Miss Ralph is professional, competent and diligent in her efforts to achieve the best financial outcome...[My brother] has been able to maximize his potential and achieve a satisfactory quality to his life. This would not have been possible without the efforts of Miss Ralph and her ability to accurately assess [his] needs for the future." (*severe brain injury resulting in profound disability and wheelchair dependence, middle aged business man*)

"I can attest to your patience in explaining the legal framework and the various alternatives we faced in coming to a reasoned decision. You were calm, patient and caring throughout the

negotiations leading to a most satisfactory structured settlement...You always had time to talk to me and my family members and displayed a genuine kindness towards [our son], even though, at times, it may have been difficult to do. By doing this, you gained [his] trust, which, I believe, was most important in our situation." (*severe brain injury, university student*)

"Nancy gave back pride and dignity to shattered lives...I thank Nancy for her professionalism, integrity and perseverance...I would recommend her without question, without hesitation..." (*severe orthopaedic injuries, resulting in disability from work*)

"There were many occasions where, had it not been for your support and guidance, I might not have had the willpower to continue. You have proved yourself over and over again...My best interests were always in your heart and this showed clearly in the final result of the case. You have been an inspiration for me. I still recall the first day you visited me in the hospital and though I've come miles since then, you, without knowing it, have been instrumental in my progress...thank you." (*paraplegia, young mother*)

"I know you did your professional utmost for me and have always done so, beginning from when I could not speak for myself. How thankful I am that my confused emotions throughout the last six years had no bearing on you doing what was best for me...Somehow, I had to keep up my optimism, no matter how misguided it sometimes seemed...the distinction that continually plagued me [was] chiefly the fine line between giving up and accepting reality...I know your practical and realistic assessment of my future has achieved for me a settlement I never in a million years would have believed either necessary or possible....I see where your hard work has paid off in allowing me the freedom and monetary funds to find and live a meaningful life. I guess after all, it is empowerment, even if it was not how I expected to find it..." "Thank you for always being straight with me...There was never any doubt in my mind that you were always honest with me. You restored my faith that there are some people who make commitments and stick to them." (*severe brain injury and multiple severe orthopaedic injuries resulting in total disability from work and loss of independence, 40 something career woman, wife and mother*)

"Nancy listened to me and comforted me throughout my family's long ordeal. Many times I wanted to just quit because I felt I was not strong enough to continue, but she convinced me that I was strong enough and that what we had been through would bring closure...I must thank Nancy again for her compassion and professional experience both with the legal system and securing the future of myself and my children." (*fatality of father, severe brain injury to young daughter, writer is the mom*)

"We most appreciated "your prompt professional and caring support; knowing that you were always aware of every development and acted quickly if you had a concern was a big relief to us...Your services were excellent. Everything was always well explained to us and we appreciated the time and effort you gave us. We would highly recommend you to anyone." (*mom of 2 sons and a father all involved in a severe crash, father suffered quadriplegia and one son, severe brain injury*)

"My daughter was awarded a legal settlement of full entitlement available under the law, set up as an income structure, to provide financial support for the rest of her life. Ms. Ralph ...[was] able to encourage our patience through regular up-dates and helpful advice to better understand the experience of persons with brain injuries, their recovery, limitations and coping strategies. Nancy's diligence in securing appropriate and professional rehabilitative services to [treat], evaluate and monitor [our daughter's] progress helped engage both her and our family in coming to terms with the realities of having an acquired brain injury...Know the difference you have made in our journey." (*mom of a teenage daughter with a severe brain injury*)

"Please accept my deepest appreciation for the manner in which you handled my case...Your judgment and honest guidance served me well...I appreciate the great effort rendered by you

and your professional staff on my behalf. Your good counsel, courtesy and personal kindness meant a great deal to me." (*self employed business man*)

Memberships

Ontario Bar Association
Canadian Bar Association
Ontario Trial Lawyers Association
The Advocates' Society
Ontario Brain Injury Association

Education

Admitted to Ontario Bar (1981)
Bachelor of Law, University of Western Ontario (1979)
Bachelor of Arts, University of Western Ontario (1976)

