## Stop and Frisk Settlements Deserved by More Than Nine People, Says New York Civil Rights Violation Lawyer

## The New York Police Department's controversial stop-and-frisk approach has led to nine recent settlements totaling more than \$150,000.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK -- According to the *New York Daily News*, the NYPD's stop-and-frisk searches inside public housing have led to nine settlements. The New York Police Department has repeatedly been accused of <u>racial profiling</u> and of violating the privacy rights of ordinary New Yorkers.

Over a year after a lawsuit was filed, New York City agreed to pay more than \$150,000 to nine of 16 plaintiffs. According to court documents, their lawsuit claims they were illegally stopped on Housing Authority property because they were Hispanic or black. Historically, minorities have been the target of most NYPD stop.

The controversial stop-and-frisk procedure has been called a <u>civil rights violation</u> by numerous organizations and individuals including the New York Civil Liberties Union and <u>New York civil rights violation lawyer</u> David Perecman.

"Racial profiling is a <u>civil rights abuse</u> which the NYPD must put a stop to or it may cost the city millions in lawsuits," said Perecman, a New York civil rights violation lawyer for over 30 years.

The *New York Times* published clear evidence of racial profiling by the NYPD last July. A comprehensive study of their stop-and-frisk policy demonstrated that the department has been targeting a number of working class and largely minority neighborhoods in New York City. Approximately five percent of all stop-and-frisk actions reported by the NYPD have occurred in those neighborhoods, while less than one percent of the city's population live in them.

As civil liberties groups in New York and <u>civil rights violation lawyer</u> Perecman have argued, NYPD's stop-and-frisk policy violates the Fourth Amendment, the part of the US Bill of Rights that forbids unreasonable search and seizure.

"The Fourth Amendment requires the existence of probable cause, which is a significantly higher standard than reasonable suspicion or a hunch," said New York civil rights violation lawyer Perecman.

A larger suit against New York over the stop and frisk searches remains ongoing. The suit seeks compensation for other individuals and to have stop and frisks announced unconstitutional.

The city says the settlements are not an admission of wrongdoing. The NYPD also claims it has new rules for patrolling public housing.

"The fact that they have announced a change in procedure is highly significant in itself. It says there is enough there to warrant a change in New York," <u>civil rights violation lawyer</u> Perecman said. "The settlements say even more."

Individuals with civil rights violation complaints against the New York Police Department should seriously consider hiring a <u>New York civil rights violation lawyer</u> with the experience to take on the police department.

About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:

For the past 30 years, the New York civil rights violation, gender discrimination, age discrimination, and elder abuse lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have handled all types of cases including civil rights violations. David Perecman, founder of the Firm, is a Board Director and the past Secretary and Treasurer of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (NYSTLA) and a chair of its Labor Law Committee. Mr. Perecman's achievements have brought him recognition as an Honoree in the National Law Journal's Hall of Fame, in New York Magazine's "The Best Lawyers in America" and The New York Times Magazine "New York Super Lawyers, Metro Edition" for the years 2007-2010.

The Firm has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Among the more recent victories, Mr. Perecman won a \$15 million verdict\* for a construction accident, a \$5.35 million dollar verdict\*\* for an automobile accident, and a

and a \$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice\*\*\*\*.

\*later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million

\*\* later settled for \$3.5 million

\*\*\* later settled for \$90,000.00

\*\*\*\* total potential payout

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