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**Marc Bern
Napoli Bern Ripka
www.nbrlawfirm.com**



**Rochelle Krich
Best Selling Author**

<http://www.rochellekrich.com/>



Co-Host Roger Clark
Clark, Goldberg & Madruga
www.clarkgoldberg.com



Marc Bern, Ptr, **Napoli Bern Ripka**, discusses his firm's representation of over 10,000 "First Responders", i.e. fire fighters, police and clean up workers at the World Trade Center, Sep 11, 2001. Today, years later, the effects of 9/11 still overwhelm the United States. the brave men and women involved in the recovery and rescue effort after the terrorist attacks in New York have begun to suffer from illness and disability as a result of their exposure to multiple toxic substances while working at

the various worksites during the rescue, recovery and cleanup operations.

Millions of minute toxic particles were released into the environment when the twin towers collapsed. Firefighters, police officers and construction workers assisting in rescue operations in the days and weeks following the attacks were exposed to these toxic substances, many of which caused serious illness and injury - some of which we have only barely begun to recognize as the aftermath of the attacks. Health officials say that rescue and cleanup workers may have inhaled asbestos, mercury, lead, silica, polyvinyl chloride and other harmful particles in the days and weeks after the tragedy. These exposures may lead to a variety of disorders, including occupational asthma ("WTC Cough"), chronic bronchitis, asbestosis, mesothelioma, silicosis, emphysema and various cancers.

Marc is a Senior Partner in the firm. Mr. Bern's legal career spans over 30 years. He has tried more than 100 cases to jury verdict, and has settled hundreds of cases for amounts in excess of \$1,000,000; total firm settlements and client recoveries exceed one billion dollars. Mr. Bern is also a member of the Million Dollar Advocates forum.

Mr. Bern has lectured before the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Practising Law Institute, New York County Lawyers Association, Wisconsin Trial Lawyers Association, Hahnemann Medical College, Mealeys seminars, and Melvin Belli seminars. He is a member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America; the New York State Trial Lawyers Association; and the Wisconsin Trial Lawyers Association.

Mr. Bern has been profiled in Who's Who in America Law. He has appeared on Court TV as Guest Commentator; on television shows including Geraldo Rivera, Phil Donahue, Montel Williams; and on news broadcasts for ABC-TV, NBC-TV and CBS-TV. Additionally, Mr. Bern has been interviewed in the Wall Street Journal; the New York Times; the Philadelphia Enquirer; the New York Post; the New York Daily News; New York Newsday; the Southampton Press and Forbes Magazine.

For **Rochelle Krich**, noted by former L.A. Times reviewer Charles Champlin for her "superior crime fiction," becoming a published writer was a fantasy. "It was something I dreamed about," she says, "something that happened to other people." That fantasy became reality in 1990 when Krich wrote *Where's Mommy Now?*,

which won the Anthony Award for Best Paperback Original and was filmed as "Perfect Alibi," starring Teri Garr, Hector Elizondo, and Kathleen Quinlan.

Since then Krich has published thirteen other novels, all critically acclaimed, as well as several short stories, many of which have been nominated for awards including the most recent, "Bitter Waters" (in Criminal Kabbalah by Jewish Lights), nominated for the Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity Awards.

In addition to her stand alone novels, she has written five Jessie Drake mysteries, three of which were nominated for the Agatha Award. The fourth in the series, Dead Air, won the Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award for Best Mystery or Suspense. The fifth, Shadows of Sin, was a national bestseller and an Agatha nominee. Krich's works have been published in Britain, Iceland, Japan, France, Germany, and Holland, Israel, and Spain.

In October of 2002, Ballantine published Blues in the Night, the first in a new series. "Think Harry Kemelman's Rabbi Small, with the rabbi's wife as sleuth," says Krich. "Think Nick and Nora Charles. Then meet true crime writer Molly Blume. An Orthodox Jew, currently unattached, who 'doesn't date rabbis.' Or so she says." Krich smiles. Blues in the Night and its sequel, Dream

House, were nominated for the Agatha (Blues was also nominated for Best Novel by the Southern California Booksellers Association). The third novel in the series, *Grave Endings*, won the Mary Higgins Clark and Calavera Awards. Coming this October is the fourth Molly Blume mystery, *Now You See Me*.

The daughter of Holocaust survivors, Krich was born in Germany and lived in New Jersey and in New York before moving with her family to Los Angeles in 1960. With a master's degree in English from U.C.L.A., she taught high school English for eighteen years, chairing the English department at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles High Schools, and received the Milken Families Foundation Award for Distinguished Educator of the Year and the Samuel Belkin Memorial Award for professional achievement. Past editor of the national *Sisters in Crime* newsletter and a former director of the National Board of Directors of the Mystery Writers of America, Krich remains active in both organizations and is a member of the American Crime Writers League.

Krich was still teaching and raising six children when she began her writing career. "The juggling was difficult," she admits, "and I've made my share of mistakes. At one point the hems of my daughters' uniform skirts were being held up by over a dozen safety pins, and I served

way too much macaroni and cheese! But somehow we all managed, and my husband and children are wonderfully supportive. Which doesn't mean that they're never cranky."

And her mysteries are attracting a growing number of readers and receiving praise from reviewers who note Krich's fully realized characters, careful plotting, page-turning suspense, and the seamless way she weaves her Orthodox Judaism and contemporary social problems into many of her works. "Krich," observes Kirkus, "doesn't shrink from big issues."

Roger Clark is the founding member and managing partner of Clark, Goldberg & Madruga www.clarkgoldberg.com . In his more than 25 years practicing law, Roger has earned a national reputation as a successful trial attorney representing insurers, cable television providers, and small and large businesses in a broad range of business litigation matters. "My philosophy has always been that the attorneys in this law firm must be prepared not just to 'litigate' a case, but to try it before a judge or jury, while at the same time keeping the client's goals and objectives squarely within our sights." Roger is rated "AV" by Martindale-Hubbell, which is the highest rating that can be bestowed upon an attorney.

Hosted by Steve Murphy.



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