DID ADJACENT CONSTRUCTION DAMAGE YOUR PROPERTY?



In New York City, the rattle of jackhammers is as common as the honking of horns. The construction never stops, and in a city so tightly packed, it can be hard to avoid. Unfortunately, it can also be hard for construction companies to avoid damaging neighboring properties.

Construction projects can cause significant damage to adjacent buildings, whether through defective demolition, improper excavation, or faulty pinning. The adjacent structures may even crack, shift, or lean as a result of this damage. Thankfully, New York City's Building Code says that owners, developers, and contractors are legally responsible for any damage they cause to neighboring properties due to faulty construction activities.

If your property has been damaged by adjacent construction, contact Morgan & Morgan Insurance Recovery Group to see if you are owed money.

What Is Adjacent Construction Damage?

Not all developers and construction crews are careful about protecting neighboring property, and even the careful ones sometimes make mistakes. These mistakes can have serious consequences. Mishandled demolition, excavation, and underpinning activity can cause neighboring buildings to shift, crack, lean, or even collapse. These are just a few examples of adjacent construction damage.

When a neighboring property is damaged, the building codes are usually very clear about who is responsible. The developer bears the burden of making sure that their work doesn't damage neighboring properties, and they are required to compensate the owners of neighboring properties if damage occurs.

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What Are the Signs That a Building Has Been Damaged by Nearby Construction?

If construction has been underway near your property, keep an eye out for any of the following red flags in your building:

- Cracks in the walls, floors, ceiling, or foundation
- Shifted or bulging walls
- Gaps between the wall and floor/ceiling
- Doors or windows that won't close properly
- Sloping or sagging floors
- Damaged bricks, mortar, or coping stones
- Defective basement beams/joists
- Plumbing or electrical issues

What Should I Do If I Think My Property Has Adjacent Construction Damage?

If you notice any of the warning signs in the above section, here's what you should do:

- Take clear pictures or videos of the damage
- Hire a qualified engineer to inspect your property and assess the damage's cause, scope, and cost
- Notify the construction project's owner, developer, and/or contractor
- Make sure you have a copy of your building's pre-construction survey
- Call your insurance company
- Contact an attorney and explain the situation

How Can an Attorney Help?

Morgan & Morgan Insurance Recovery Group New York attorneys have vast experience handling adjacent construction claims. We can help you file a claim against owners, developers, construction companies, and insurance companies. These cases can be difficult and time-consuming for people to take on themselves. Let us guide you through the process and make sure your rights are protected. If you are owed money for damages, we won't rest until you recover full and fair compensation.



Over the past 30 years, our attorneys have recovered more than \$7 billion for our clients. We have the skills, resources, and toughness to take on big companies on behalf of the little guy. That's why our motto is For The People, Not The Powerful.

It costs nothing upfront to hire us, and we get paid only if we successfully resolve your case. Contact us today.



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