

THE NEW YORK AREA'S

# BEST LAWYERS<sup>®</sup>

2011 EDITION

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY & CONNECTICUT

AS FEATURED IN A SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION IN

*New York*  
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## BONINA & BONINA, PC

**PROVIDING A VOICE TO THE VOICELESS** and making a difference — that is what fuels John Bonina to tirelessly prepare each and every case he tries. “I knew early on that I wanted to represent real people with real problems that were affecting their lives,” says Bonina. “There is nothing more satisfying than knowing you were able to change someone’s life for the better.”

**JOHN HAS BEEN DOING JUST THAT EVER SINCE HIS** first trial win nearly 20 years ago. Today, he and his sister, Andrea Bonina, lead a five-lawyer team with over 75 years of combined experience representing victims of medical malpractice, negligence, and defective products.

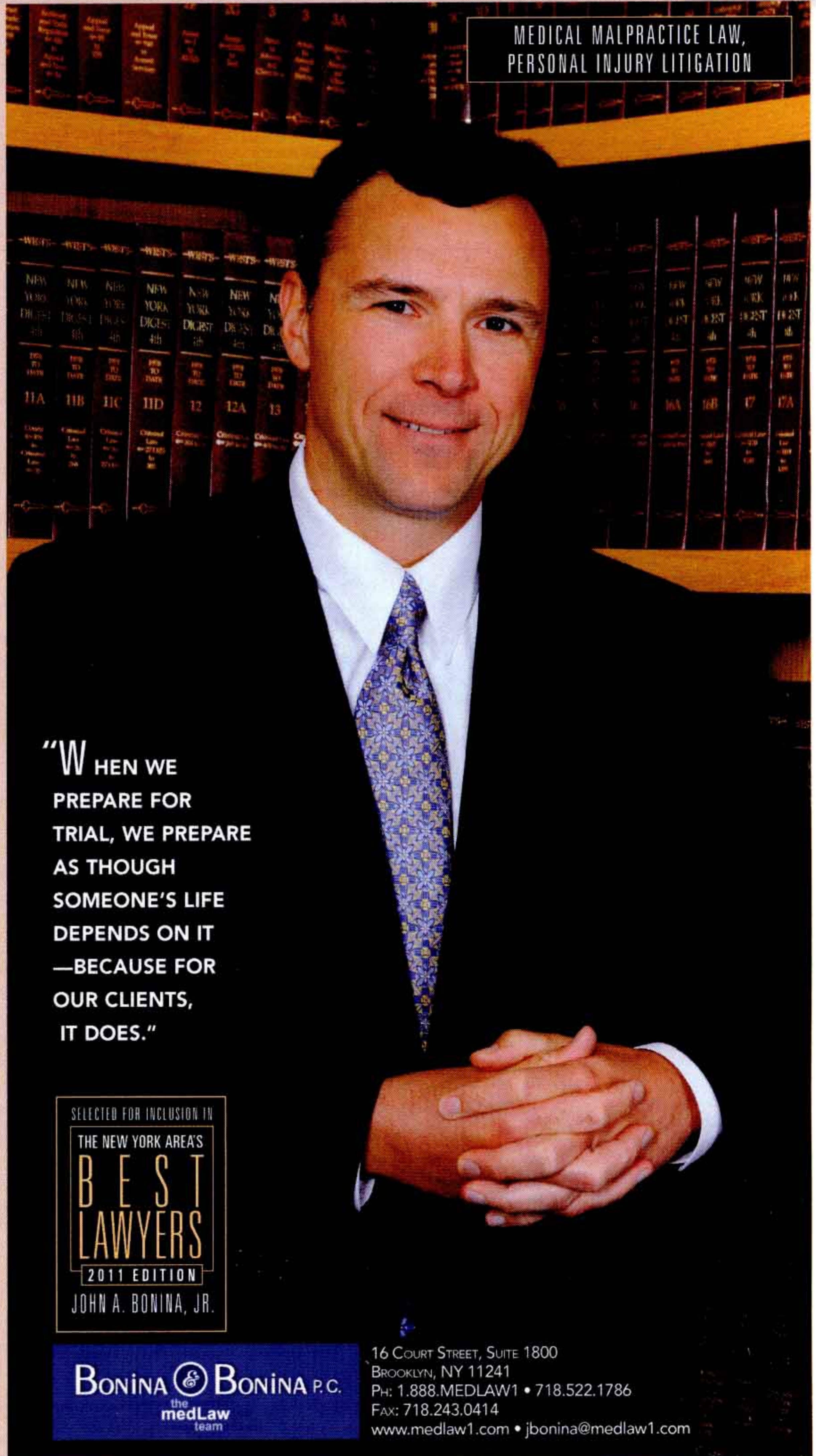
**IN THE LAST TEN YEARS, THE FIVE-LAWYER FIRM OF** Bonina and Bonina has recorded more than \$200 million in combined settlements and verdicts. Bonina, whose track record of repeated victories in the courtroom stretches back for years, credits his success to the empathy he has for his client’s struggles.

**BONINA’S APPROACH TO EACH AND EVERY CASE** inspires and guides everyone at his firm. “There are two important ingredients in representing injured people passionately: empathy for the clients and meticulous preparation on each and every case,” he explains. “Our mission in pursuing fair and just compensation is to expose whatever wrongdoing hurt our client—whether it be substandard medical care, dangerous consumer products, or shoddy workplace safety practices. When we prepare for trial, we prepare as though someone’s life depends on it—because for our clients, it does.”

**BONINA IS UNFAZED BY THE ADVANTAGES** defendants frequently have in medical malpractice and complex litigation cases. “In any given case, the defense is going to be extremely well-funded, and that’s why you have to bring your ‘A game’ every time.”

**A PAST-PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE** Academy of Trial Lawyers and the Chair of the Medical Malpractice Committee of the Brooklyn Bar Association, John Bonina is frequent lecturer on medical malpractice and trial tactics throughout the state.

Stasia Grossman



MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAW,  
PERSONAL INJURY LITIGATION

**“WHEN WE PREPARE FOR TRIAL, WE PREPARE AS THOUGH SOMEONE’S LIFE DEPENDS ON IT —BECAUSE FOR OUR CLIENTS, IT DOES.”**



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### METHODOLOGY

**T**his list is excerpted from the 2011 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup>, the preeminent referral guide to the legal profession in the United States. Published for nearly three decades, *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> lists attorneys in 82 practice areas, representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia, who have been chosen through an exhaustive survey in which thousands of the nation's top lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers. The 2011 edition of *Best Lawyers*, which was published in November 2010, is based on more than 3.1 million evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

The method used to compile *Best Lawyers* remains unchanged since the first edition was compiled more than 28 years ago. Lawyers are chosen for inclusion based solely on a vote of their peers. Listings cannot be bought, and no purchase is required to be included. In this regard, *Best Lawyers* remains the gold standard of reliability and integrity in lawyer ratings.

The nomination pool for the 2011 edition consisted of all lawyers whose names appeared in the previous edition of *Best Lawyers*, lawyers who were nominated since the previous survey, and new nominees solicited from listed attorneys. In general, lawyers were asked to vote only on nominees in their own practice area in their own jurisdiction. Lawyers in closely related practice areas were asked to vote across practice areas, as were lawyers in smaller jurisdictions. Where practice areas are national or international in nature, lawyers were asked to vote nationally as well as locally. Voting lawyers were also given an opportunity to offer more detailed comments on nominees.

Voting lawyers were provided this general guideline for determining if a nominee should be listed: "If you had a close friend or relative who needed a real estate lawyer (for example), and you could not handle the case yourself, to whom would you refer them?" All votes and comments were solicited with a guarantee of confidentiality – a critical factor in the viability and validity of *Best Lawyers* surveys. To ensure the rigor of the selection process, lawyers were urged to use only their highest standards when voting, and to evaluate each nominee based only on his or her individual merits. The additional comments were used to make more accurate comparisons between voting patterns and weight votes accordingly. *Best Lawyers* uses various methodological tools to identify and correct for anomalies in both the nomination and voting process.

Ultimately, of course, a lawyer's inclusion is based on the subjective judgments of his or her fellow attorneys. While it is true that the lists may at times disproportionately reward visibility or popularity, the breadth of the survey, the candor of the respondents, and the sophistication of the polling methodology largely correct for any biases. For all these reasons, *Best Lawyers* lists continue to represent the most reliable, accurate and useful guide to the legal profession in the United States. *Best Lawyers* lists are available at [www.bestlawyers.com](http://www.bestlawyers.com). "Best Lawyers" and "The Best Lawyers in America" are registered trademarks of Woodward/White, Inc.