

- From the Desk of Joseph B. Landy -

Community News Brief

Sunday, March 6, 2011
Walk Now for Autism Speaks
West Palm Beach, Florida



Team LLL&S

Dear Friends,

To everyone who participated, I want to thank you again for joining Gary, Mickey and I in our support of Autism Speaks on Sunday, March 6th. So many people put their time, and their money, behind a charity that is seeking to find the cause, and cure, of autism. In doing so, we all showed that this is an integral part of what we are about - not talking the talk, but truly "walking the walk." Thanks for supporting a charity not because it is good for business, or for some other reason - but doing something because it is the **right thing** to do. This is what makes us, as a law

firm, different. We try very hard to give back to our community. We are so very proud of everyone who joined us in the community wide walk for Autism Speaks.

On a related note, I wanted to let you know that as the Corporate Chair of this year's walk, we doubled our corporate sponsorships for the second year in a row. In addition, we had a record shattering attendance of over 7,000 walkers and a new record of funds raised of over \$340,000!

Autism Speaks' Walk Now for Autism Speaks, the nation's largest grassroots autism walk program, is the organization's signature fundraising and awareness event, taking place in communities across the United States, as well as in Canada and the United Kingdom. Powered by volunteers and families with loved ones on the autism spectrum, this successful grassroots fundraising effort not only generates vital funds for autism research, but also raises awareness about the increasing prevalence of autism and the need for increased research funding to combat this complex disorder. If you are interested in lending your support, please do not hesitate to contact me at (561) 655-2028 or visit the organization's website at www.autismspeaks.org.



Thank you again for your unconditional support,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe".

Joseph B. Landy
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Local lawyer leads 10th annual autism walk in West Palm Beach

By [KEVIN D. THOMPSON](#)

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Posted: 9:12 a.m. Wednesday, March 2, 2011

As a civil trial lawyer and partner with the firm Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, Joe Landy spends all his time fighting for victims who can't fight for themselves - everyone from abused elderly nursing home patients to victims of corporate greed.

But Landy has another cause that's much more personal: autism.

For the second consecutive year, Landy will serve as corporate chair for the 10th Annual Palm Beach Walk Now For Autism Speaks. The walk is scheduled to be held Sunday in downtown West Palm Beach. Landy said he's expecting about 5,000 participants.

"Autism is a growing epidemic," Landy said.

As corporate chair, Landy's job is to find corporate sponsors. Last year Landy said he raised \$60,000. That number is up to \$120,000 this year, he said.

For last year's walk, the firm, established in 1927 and the third oldest law firm in Palm Beach County, helped raise \$324,000 to pay for scientific research, advocacy efforts and family services in South Florida.

While Landy, of Lake Worth, said the cause is "personal" to him, he declined to elaborate.

"I'll leave it at that," he said in an emotion-filled voice.

Since he was about 3, Landy said he knew he wanted to be an attorney.

"I had a natural aptitude for it," he said. "I was always questioning authority."

Landy started out as an insurance defense attorney in 1993, but quickly grew disenchanted with representing deep-pocketed corporations.

"I gained a tremendous amount of insight into how corporations did business," he said. "The mentality was to always put profits before people."

Landy, a married father of two, said he's much more comfortable defending the underdog.

"I learned at a very early age that sometimes standing up for what you believe is right is the most difficult thing," he said. "But if you're right in the end, others will follow."

Q: How do you get away from it all?

'I watch SpongeBob SquarePants with my kids.'

Q: What do you think of TV law shows?

'Between spending my entire day fighting on behalf of victims and spending my free time battling autism, I don't have much time for TV shows. And the kids rule the remote in my house.'

Q: What's your favorite junk food?

'Pizza because it's awesome.'

Q: Who inspires you?

'My wife. As a trial lawyer, I'm trained to go full-steam ahead, and she has the incredible ability to be strong, resilient and forceful when needed, while at the same time being incredibly caring and empathetic and that balance is just amazing to me.'

Q: Who would you like to be stuck in an elevator with?

'My grandfather because I miss him so much.'