

**FORMER CONGRESSMAN TONY COELHO**

**CONGRESSIONAL STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS CAUCUS BRIEFING**

**Washington, D.C.**

**MARCH 5, 2014**

I am pleased to be here this morning at the inaugural meeting of the Congressional Structured Settlements Caucus.

It is also an honor to share the podium at this Caucus Meeting with Caucus Co-Chairs Congressman John Lewis and Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner.

I am also thrilled to be here today with my good friend Fred Maahs, the Chairman of the American Association of People with Disabilities.

From the time when I served in the U.S Congress structured settlements have always enjoyed strong bipartisan support here on Capitol Hill—for one very simple reason—structured settlements work to help injured victims live their lives with security and confidence.

This Caucus has been organized to help educate the Congressional community—new Members of Congress and Congressional staff on the importance of structured settlements.

There are several structured settlement industry professionals here with us today, and I would like to ask them just a few questions to help educate the Congressional community about structured settlements:

1. Question: What is a structured settlement and who can take advantage of a structured settlement?
2. Question: How are structured settlements negotiated? Who gets involved in negotiating a structured settlement for an injury victim?
3. Question: Structured settlements enable seriously injured, often profoundly disabled people to live with dignity and financial independence, free of reliance on government programs and

interference. Can you provide us with an example of a case you have worked on to help an injured victim with a structured settlement?

4. Question: I understand structured settlements have been used in the tort area for over 30 years. Are there other areas where structured settlements are used today? ((Worker's Compensation claims, wrongful death claims, Medicare set-asides for workers comp cases))

I want to thank all of you for your support for structured settlements and your interest in this new Caucus.

Thank you.