



Suit Over Hernia-Surgery Injuries Settles for \$1M in Morris County



PHOTO BY CARMEN NATALE

David Mazie

Cayero v. Sadow: A surgeon agreed on Dec. 7 to pay his full professional liability policy of \$1 million to settle a patient's claim that a laparoscopic hernia surgery went awry, causing disabling injuries.

Steven Sadow of Succasunna lost control of the trocar, a tool he was using to perform the surgery, and cut

the abdominal wall, severed the renal vein and injured the aorta of patient Jose Cayero of Dover, according to a suit filed in Morris County Superior Court.

Cayero, an engineer, then 62, almost died, was in intensive care for two months, needed rehabilitation and corrective surgeries and is no longer able to work, says his lawyer, **David Mazie of Mazie Slater Katz & Freeman** in Roseland. Cayero's lost wage claim was \$250,000, Mazie says.

Defense lawyer **Craig Combs of Giblin & Combs** in Morristown confirms the amount of the settlement. The doctor said the operation was complicated by prior ulcer surgery Cayero had undergone, Combs and Mazie say.

— **By Henry Gottlieb**