

DAILY NEWS

Court rules 9/11 health risks can air

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Thousands of 9/11 workers who blame their respiratory ailments on the city's negligence came a step closer Wednesday to airing their claims before a federal jury.

A [Manhattan](#) federal appeals court turned back attempts by the city and the Port Authority to claim immunity from suits filed by nearly 10,000 workers.

The city claims its contractors were acting in the nation's defense when they responded to the disaster. The court said it's too soon to tell if the defendants can claim immunity.

The workers accuse the city of moving too swiftly to clean up the site, exposing them to a toxic mix of chemicals that has left them with debilitating illnesses.

A trial is still several years away but lawyers for the workers hailed the decision as a key victory.

"This means that 10,000 people will get their day in court," lawyer [David Worby](#) said. "That's all they've ever asked."