

In the News

In the law firms

Leydig, Voit & Mayer Ltd. has added **Thomas D. Paulius** as resident counsel. Paulius concentrate his practice on patent, trademark and copyright matters, with an emphasis on electrical and mechanical technologies.

In Circuit Court

A Cook County jury has awarded \$1.2 million to the estate of a woman who died after she wasn't immediately taken to a more specialized hospital after suffering bleeding in her brain. In June 2002, Sheila Griffin, 44, suffered a massive subarachnoid hemorrhage and was taken to Holy Cross Hospital.

According to the lawsuit, Griffin's blood pressure was extremely elevated, and she couldn't carry on a conversation. A brain scan was performed, and she was initially diagnosed with a basal ganglia bleed, which is brain bleeding but it is a condition that doesn't require an immediate transfer to a facility with neurosurgical abilities.

Based upon what the plaintiff alleged was a misdiagnosis, Griffin stayed at Holy Cross instead of being immediately transferred to Rush University Medical Center.

When she arrived at Rush nearly four hours after being diagnosed at Holy Cross, she was in a coma and died.

The estate was represented by **Scott D. Lane** and **Mark A. Brown** of Lane & Lane LLC. Holy Cross Hospital was represented by **Robert S. Baker** of Baker & Enright. The attending physician and his medical group were represented by **Thomas R. Hill** of Dykema, Gossett PLLC.

A third-party defendant, AR Imaging S.C., was represented by **William C. Anderson III** and **Elizabeth A. Connolly** of Anderson, Rasor & Partners LLP. Another third party defendant, the radiologist who read the CT scan, was represented by **John P. Passola** of Power & Cronin Ltd.

The jury apportioned fault to Holy Cross Hospital (65 percent), AR Imaging (30 percent) and the attending physician (5 percent). Circuit Judge **Clare Elizabeth McWilliams** presided over the trial, which ended with the verdict on Tuesday. *Timicko Griffin, etc. v. Leland Lenahan, et al. v. AR Imaging, et al.*, No. 04 L 5919.

A man whose kneecap was shattered when he slipped on a wet spot at Ogilvie Transportation Center has been awarded nearly \$1.2 million by a Cook County jury.

Bond trader **Rocco Ditrani**, 47, was walking through the train station when he slipped and fell on a wet spot caused by a leak in the building's roof. The lawsuit alleged that no warning signs were displayed.

Due to the injury, Ditrani lost four months of work. On Tuesday, the jury awarded \$1.18 million to Ditrani and \$123,000 to his wife. The couple was represented by **Jeffrey J. Kröll** of the Law Offices of Jeffrey J. Kröll and **Robert A. Clifford** at Clifford Law Offices.

The building management company was represented by **Michael H. McColl** of Foran, Glennon, Palandech & Ponzi P.C. The janitorial service that was accused of failing to remove the water was represented by **David E. Kravitz** of Cray, Huber, Horstman, Heil & VanAusdal LLC.

Kravitz said that he presented witnesses at trial that contended that there were warning signs displayed. Kravitz also said that the plaintiff asked the jury for \$7.4 million.

Circuit Judge **Carol Pearce McCarthy** presided. *Rocco Ditrani v. MR Deal Estate Services LLC, et al.* No. 05 L 1963.

Hiding as not racketeer

By Patricia Mar
Law Bulletin staff w

A woman who claims her father plotted to pre getting her fair share of a divorce does not have a general racketeering law, a ju

In an opinion made a day, U.S. District Judge Marovich dismissed the case. R. Ruttenberg brought up the RICO statute and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

In bringing that claim, she tried to stretch the RICO statute to a situation not envisioned according to Marovich.

Quoting *Gamboia v. Vel* (7th Cir. 2006), Marovich said the claim pursued under the RICO provisions "is a unique claim that is concerned with a racketeering activity, long-term, habitual activity."

But in her RICO claim, she did not allege that such activity was a racketeering activity, Marovich said.

Instead, Marovich said she alleged that her husband's law firm worked with a third party to divert her husband's income into a trust so that she would not receive the money she was due.

"The alleged conduct

Texas judge execution

By Jackie S
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A Texas commission filed a proceeding against the presiding judge of the state's highest criminal court, claiming he improperly cutting off a convicted inmate on the execution.

The action by the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct against Judge Keller, presiding judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, is in her removal from office.

Convicted killer Michael Lee was put to death on Sept. 10. Keller ordered a clerk to clear the court's office promptly after the execution. For Richard had requested the court stay open an extra 20 minutes.