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Levin & Perconti Reach \$850,000 Settlement with Jiffy Lube in Premises Liability Case
88-year-old Chicago man died after fall on slippery surface

CHICAGO, November 16, 2009— Jiffy Lube International has agreed to an \$850,000 settlement with the family of an 88-year-old Edison Park man who was seriously injured due to a fall at a Chicago Jiffy Lube service center. These injuries resulted in his untimely death four weeks after the fall. Susan Novosad of Levin & Perconti represented the victim’s family in the wrongful death lawsuit. The case was mediated by the Honorable Judge Michael Hogan (ret.) and the settlement order was approved on November 12, 2009 in the Circuit Court of Cook County by the Honorable Judge James D. Egan.

On October 16, 2006, Robert “Bob” Kinzle visited the Jiffy Lube at 7200 North Harlem in Chicago for a routine oil change. As he walked to his car after his service was completed, Bob slipped on an arrow painted on the driveway of the service center and fell. It had rained that day, causing the arrow to become slippery. The Jiffy Lube employees were aware that these arrows became particularly slippery when wet and had complained to the management about the obvious safety hazard. Instead of calling an ambulance when Bob struggled to his feet and expressed pain after his fall, an employee helped him to his car and drove him back to his house. Upon arriving at home, his daughter determined that he needed medical attention and immediately brought him to Lutheran General Hospital. Bob was diagnosed with a fractured right pelvis, a fractured acetabulum (socket of the hip joint), and a fractured right shoulder.

Doctors attempted surgery to repair his injuries, but when being prepared for the surgery, Bob went into respiratory arrest, requiring intubation. After spending several weeks in the hospital, Bob’s worsening condition prevented him from returning home and he was sent to a nursing home for additional care. Bob’s health continued to deteriorate rapidly and on November 19, 2006 he died as a result of his injuries. Prior to his fall, Bob was in good health and lived at home with his wife Rose. Bob leaves behind a close-knit, loving family that includes his four daughters, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

According to Susan Novosad, “Jiffy Lube employees were aware that the arrow on the driveway became exceptionally slippery when wet. As a consequence of this knowledge, Jiffy Lube was obligated to repair the surface for the safety of its employees and patrons. They failed to rectify the situation, or even warn customers of this dangerous condition, before Bob’s fall; this negligence directly resulted in his death.”

Levin & Perconti is a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all areas of personal injury, medical malpractice and wrongful death litigation. The lawyers at Levin & Perconti are committed to protecting and defending the rights of people who have been injured by the negligence of others. Please contact the firm at (312) 332-2872 or visit www.levinperconti.com for more information.

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