

## **Family of Lincoln Park fall victim reach \$975,000 settlement with building owner**

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The family of a 24-year-old man who plunged to his death from the balcony of a Lincoln Park apartment back in 2007 has reached a \$975,000 settlement with the building's owner.

On Monday, Cook County Circuit Court Judge Kathy Flanagan signed off on the settlement, which calls for Stammich Management LLC to pay nearly a million dollars to settle the wrongful death case filed by the family of Sean Heflin, who died from brain injuries in the fall.

The Heflin's family attorney, Steven Levin, said this wasn't about money, but holding the building owner accountable for the building code violations they believe led to his death. In the lawsuit, the family alleged the porch railings were approximately 10 inches lower than the Chicago building code requirement of 42 inches.

"Jane Heflin, Sean's mother, felt strongly that a message should be communicated to Chicago landlords, that they must comply with building code ordinances," said Levin, a Chicago attorney. "She hopes this will serve as a warning to other landlords to comply with building safety ordinances."

On July 1, 2007 Sean Heflin, who hailed from the suburbs, was attending a party at the home of his girlfriend in the 1900 block of North Bissell and fell from a second-floor balcony and onto the concrete below. He suffered traumatic brain injuries and died seven months later.

A representative of Stammich Management, based in Chicago, didn't immediately comment on the case.