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\$1.8 Million Medical Malpractice Verdict Awarded Against Blue Island Surgeon

Surgeon unnecessarily removed 35-year-old man's only remaining testicle

CHICAGO, May 12, 2014 – Late Friday afternoon, a Cook County jury awarded a \$1.8 million medical malpractice verdict to a Michigan City, IN man. The Plaintiff, who was 35 at the time, lost his only remaining testicle during hernia repair surgery on July 19, 2007. He was represented by Michael F. Bonamarte and Jordan S. Powell of Levin & Perconti. The Honorable Thomas V. Lyons II presided over the seven day trial.

The Plaintiff was admitted to St. Francis Hospital-Blue Island for a scheduled surgery to repair a left inguinal hernia. Dr. Ramon Manglano, a general surgeon, performed the surgery. Years prior to this procedure, the Plaintiff had his right testicle surgically removed as the result of testicular torsion but his left testicle was intact and fully-functioning. During the procedure, Dr. Manglano removed the Plaintiff's left (and only remaining) testicle.

"We alleged that Dr. Manglano failed to provide our client with an adequate physical examination prior to surgery," said Bonamarte. "We further alleged that Dr. Manglano removed our client's left testicle when there was no legitimate medical reason to do so and without obtaining appropriate consent from him. As a result of this negligence, our client and his wife can no longer have children. He also suffers from increased fatigue, excessive sweating and a decreased libido because of a testosterone deficiency created by this loss."

The lawsuit was filed in April 2009 and named Manglano and his employer, Pronger Smith Medical Care, as defendants. During the five day trial, the jury heard testimonies from medical experts on both sides of the case, along with the Plaintiff and his wife. The defendant argued he removed the testicle because he claimed it was small in size and in an incorrect anatomical location and therefore put the client at an increased risk for testicular cancer.

"The Defendant robbed our client of his manhood when he unnecessarily removed his testicle without his consent," said Powell. "Due to this irreversible mistake, our client and his wife could not try for the daughter they always dreamed of having to complete their family."

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"We hope they find some peace in knowing that the surgeon has been held accountable. We also hope that our client's verdict will draw attention to the prevalence of preventable medical errors and will motivate healthcare professionals to take steps to reduce the incidence of avoidable and inexcusable mistakes in medical settings."

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