

NURSING HOME INJURY

CHICAGO BASED PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY NENYE E. UCHE SECURES RECORD VERDICT OF \$625,000 FOR 11-HOURS OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS FOR ELDERLY NURSING HOME RESIDENT

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On November 1, after a two-week jury trial, a Cook County Jury returned a record verdict of \$625,000 for emotional distress in a nursing home neglect case heard in front of the Honorable Judge Robert E. Senechalle jr.

Attorney Uche tried the case with Attorney Heather A. Widell of [The Law Offices of Heather A. Widell & Associates.](#)

The case, Cecelia Jones v. Villa at South Holland, centered around Attorney Uche's client, a 77-year-old grandmother who had fallen and bruised her

face. The nursing home claimed that Attorney Uche's client had attempted to get up from a wheelchair in a common area and had fallen as she attempted to walk. The nursing home offered \$50,000 to settle the case.

Attorney Uche and his client rejected the settlement offer and proceeded to trial. At trial Attorney Uche demonstrated that Ms. Jones had fallen from a bed when the nursing home staff had attempted to forcefully remove her from bed. Attorney Uche also demonstrated that for at least 11 hours, Ms. Jones cried out in pain and was ignored by the staff.

In an attempt to mitigate the damages, the Defense team called a University of Chicago professor of medicine who testified that the injuries were mere bruises and were not serious. The professor also testified that the injuries were treated with painkillers and a band-aid which was appropriate.

However, in closing arguments and in rebuttal arguments, Attorney Uche and Attorney Widell emphasized the fragility of Ms. Jones and the tremendous impact any pain or bruising, no matter how minor, would have on an elderly sick patient.

After just under forty

minutes of deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of \$625,000 for emotional distress and pain and suffering.

Attorney Nenye E. Uche is a former Chicago prosecutor who received his legal education from the University of Wisconsin Law School. As an Assistant State Attorney, he prosecuted more than one thousand criminal cases and developed a comprehensive understanding of the criminal justice system. He is a member of the Illinois Bar, as well as the federal trial bar for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of

Illinois.

Mr. Uche's extensive experience as a trial attorney, criminal defense attorney and as a former prosecutor, allows him to provide the highest quality of legal representation for clients in the areas of Personal Injury, Civil Rights, Criminal and DUI Defense.

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