

May 14, 2009

Press Release for Immediate Release

Wal-Mart Worker Settles Loading Dock Fall Case

Springfield, IL – A Wal-Mart worker who was injured in a loading dock accident settled his lawsuit for \$100,000 against a Kansas trucking company in U.S. District Court on Tuesday May 12th.

Mark Dereak (46), who lives in Decatur, IL., claimed that in March 2005 he and his crew were unloading merchandise from a trailer at the loading dock of the Wal-Mart store on Dirksen Parkway.

A truck driver employed by Don Mattox Trucking LLC located in Erie, Kansas, pulled the trailer out from the dock while Dereak and his crew were still unloading it. When the truck accelerated forward it threw Dereak out of the back of the trailer and on to the concrete pavement four feet below.

Dereak suffered a closed-head injury, fractures of his left arm and wrist, and fractures to his skull. He missed three months of work from his

job as co-manager of the Wal-Mart store. Dereak has worked for Wal-Mart for 30 years. His wife Melinda also sued for damages called loss of consortium.

U.S. District Court Judge Jeanne Scott approved the settlement of \$100,000 which included a waiver of all worker compensation liens which totaled about \$62,000. The settlement was achieved after the jury had been selected and just before opening statements of the lawyers were to begin. Decatur attorney William Faber represented the Dereaks.

Case information:

U.S. District Court, Central Division of Illinois, Springfield Division

Case No. 3:06 -cv-3123