

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

Woman blinded by retractable leash settles claims

By Virginia Lawyers Weekly Staff July 3, 2006

Plaintiff purchased a retractable dog leash from a dollar store. The leash had no warnings or size limitations. Plaintiff used the leash later that week to walk her dog. Upon its first use, the dog ran off, and the metal hook straightened out and flew back into plaintiff's eye. The impact caused a macular hole and left plaintiff legally blind in her eye. Plaintiff was able to find work several months after her injury and was actually making substantially more money by the time of trial. Discovery was delayed due to jurisdictional motions by the California importer. Plaintiff prevailed in those motions. Plaintiff settled with the importer, the distributor and the retailer.

Type of Action: Product liability

Injuries Alleged: Macular hole resulting in blindness

Name of Case: Quirin v. Kiev Company d/b/a Dollar World, Ameritek Imports, Inc & Apex

Merchandising Group, Inc.

Court: Roanoke City Circuit

Case No.: CL03-617

Tried Before: Mediation

Name of Judge: Jonathan M. Apgar

Special Damages: \$17,700.00 incurred medical expenses and lost wages

Verdict/Settlement: Settlement

Amount: Confidential settlement

Verdict Date: December 2005

Plaintiff's Attorney: Paul R. Thomson III, Roanoke

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