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lliam King Jo

VerdictSearch publication Lists Four SDSBS Cases in 'Top 100 Verdicts of 2007'

VerdictSearch, a publication for legal news and research on civil and criminal court cases, jury verdicts, legal judgments, and settlements throughout the United States, listed four SDSBS cases in its "Top 100 Verdicts of 2007." The publication's database includes almost 200,000 reports. It receives as many as 8,000 reports each year, ranking them by gross award to identify the top 100.

In Edwards v. Lee Memorial Health System, presented by **Chris Searcy** and **Jack Hill**, a jury awarded \$30.8 million to the family of a child born with dystonic cerebral palsy caused by the hospital's failure to properly administer Pitocin, a drug used to induce labor. Hippely v. Walgreen Company, presented by **Chris Searcy** and **Karen Terry**, made the list with a verdict for the plaintiff of \$25.8 million. The jury found negligence on the part of Walgreen's pharmacy in incorrectly refilling Beth Hippely's prescription for

a blood-thinning medication at ten times the proper dosage. The case became the basis for new legislation which will enhance the regulations and professional requirements applicable to pharmacists operating in Florida. The list also included Estrada v. University of South Florida, presented by Chris Searcy and John Shipley. A jury awarded the plaintiffs \$23.5 million for damages resulting from the failure of doctors to diagnose a severe genetic disorder in the family's first-born child. A simple test could have revealed the disorder and permitted the family to avoid the pregnancy which resulted in the birth of a second child who suffers from the same disorder and will require care for the rest of his life. The fourth case included in the listing is Beers v. Hulick presented by Chris Searcy, Jack Scarola, and William King. A jury awarded the plaintiff \$21.6 million. Mrs. Beers was killed when her car was rear-ended by a driver talking on a cell-phone.