

**JANE DOE vs.
DR. DOE
AND DOE HOSPITAL**

Plaintiff, a 57 year old woman with acinic cell adenocarcinoma, sued the pathologist and hospital that failed to accurately diagnose her disease and caused a two year delay in her treatment. She had visited a surgeon complaining of pain in her left ear. The surgeon performed a biopsy of the ear at the hospital. The pathologist misinterpreted the biopsied tissue as noncancerous when, in fact, it was cancerous. The surgeon relied on the pathologist's interpretation. Consequently, she did not receive cancer treatment. Two years later, she was correctly diagnosed and underwent surgery on the lower left side of her face and neck, with follow-up radiation therapy. As a result of the delay, the facial nerve was sacrificed, leaving her with facial disfigurement on the left side and requiring reconstructive plastic surgery. In addition, the delay increased the chances of the disease recurring and the need for additional treatment, which has occurred. Chris Searcy and Lance Block negotiated a \$1.1 million settlement for the woman. ■