

**QUINN v.
BOWERY MANAGEMENT CORP.,
D/B/A COUNTRY NIGHTS**

Kevin Quinn and his wife Tracie decided to spend an evening out during a family vacation in West Palm Beach in November 1995. The Tallahassee couple arrived at Country Nights, a country western nightclub, close to 11:30 p.m. on Nov. 21, 1995 and had several drinks.

As the night progressed, the Quinn's fought about a woman with whom Mr. Quinn had been dancing earlier in the evening. When the couple's fight became physical, bartender Michael Crowder jumped over the bar and, with the assistance of two other bouncers, hustled Mr. Quinn out the front door of the club. A club manager prevented Mrs. Quinn from following her husband. When the bouncers returned, they told her that her husband had fallen and hit his head. Mrs. Quinn left Country Nights through the back door to find Mr. Quinn sitting by the car, holding his head in his hands.

On the drive home, his condition deteriorated, so his wife stopped at Palms West Hospital. His injuries were so severe he had trouble getting into the hospital and began vomiting blood. After immediate x-rays showed blood on his brain, Mr. Quinn was flown by Traumahawk to St. Mary's Hospital, where surgery was performed. He remained in a coma for several weeks but made a 95 percent recovery after six months.

Eyewitnesses outside Country Nights told police that, even though Mr. Quinn wasn't making a fuss about leaving, Mr. Crowder took a large flashlight from his back pocket and struck Mr. Quinn on the left side of his head. Several bouncers followed him to his car, shouting and swearing.

With the help of attorney John A. Shipley, Mr. Quinn filed suit against Country Nights and Michael Crowder. He was awarded \$15 million by a Palm Beach County jury on Aug. 25, 1997. ■