

# Suits & Deals

## \$850,000 for Medical Malpractice

**Aleksiejczyk v. Ing:** A Camden County jury awarded \$850,000 on Sept. 21 to a Cinnaminson woman who claimed a surgeon's negligence led to removal of one of her kidneys.

Elissa Aleksiejczyk underwent surgery at Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County in Willingboro in



**NEGLIGENCE ALLEGED IN COLON OPERATION:** Frank Allen claimed his client's ureter was blocked during surgery, requiring removal of a kidney.

October 2007 to remove a portion of her colon due to diverticulitis. Afterward, her left kidney became swollen, which she attributed to constriction of the ureter during surgery. Four operations to reopen the ureter were unsuccessful, and she had the kidney removed.

Aleksiejczyk sued Richard Ing, who performed the colon surgery, claiming his negligent use of a laproscopic stapler to close the colon incision resulted in the stapling of her ureter.

Aleksiejczyk, now 74, took two years to recover from emotional problems, a side effect of pain medication needed for the constriction problem, says her attorney, Frank Allen of Archer & Greiner in Haddonfield.

The defendants disputed the assertion that the ureter blockage was caused by a staple, says Allen. After trial before Superior Court Judge Lee Solomon, the jury awarded \$750,000 to Aleksiejczyk and \$100,000 per quod to her husband.

Ing's lawyer, Gregory Giordano of Lenox, Socey, Formidioni, Brown, Giordano, Cooley & Casey in Lawrenceville, did not return a call.

—By Charles Toutant

## \$550,000 in Car Accident Case

**Wu v. A&R Transport:** A West Orange woman received a \$550,000 settlement in her Essex County suit alleging injuries in a crash with a tanker truck.

On March 13, 2008, Mirzi Wu, then 42, was driving south on Route 1&9 in Jersey City when the northbound truck, driven by Paul Johnson Jr. of A&R Transport, attempted a left-hand turn in front of her and she hit it broadside.

Wu's lawyer, Robert Linder of Englewood, says she suffered a mild traumatic brain injury, a torn labrum in her left shoulder and a one-level cervical herniation. She underwent arthroscopic surgery on her shoulder. Due to the brain injury, she has lingering problems with cognition, short-term memory and concentration, he says.

Johnson, of Racine, Ohio, was cited for failure to yield and later pleaded guilty, Linder says.

The parties settled on July 26, a week before the matter was scheduled for trial. The settlement was paid around Sept. 1, Linder says.

A&R Transport was represented by Joseph Reardon III of Weston, Stierli, McMadden & Capotorto in Parsippany, staff counsel for Zurich Insurance Co. He did not return a call.

—By David Gianella