

# Federal Jury Verdict Reporter

The Most Current and Complete Summary of Federal Jury Verdicts

April 2008

Nationwide Federal Jury Verdict Coverage

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## Notable Verdicts in The April 2008 Issue

**Eighth Amendment** - *TN Western* - An prisoner, charged with a minor crime, was sexually assaulted at the Memphis jail under the watchful eye of his jailers - Zero p. 4

**Employment Retaliation** - *New Mexico* - A ticket manager for a minor league hockey team alleged retaliation after complaining of sexual harassment - Zero p. 5

**First Amendment** - *AL Middle* - A firefighter was fired for publicly opposing a hiring policy, the city finding he had violated the chain of command - Zero p. 6

**National Origin Discrimination** - *Maryland* - Two Iraqis were pulled from America West flight after they engaged in prayers before boarding - Zero p. 4

**National Origin Discrimination** - *MO Eastern* - A Syrian worker at an auto plant in Missouri was called a camel jockey by his co-workers - \$200,000 p. 7

**Premises Liability** - *Colorado* - A shopper at Target sustained a shoulder injury and resulting RSD when a vacuum cleaner fell from a shelf and struck her - \$535,850 p. 11

**Products Liability** - *TX Northern* - On a fraternity trip, the plaintiff was accidentally shot by his friend with a Remington rifle – in this products case, the plaintiff was critical of the rifle's hair trigger - Zero p. 12

**Race Discrimination** - *FL Southern* - A black psychiatrist alleged he was not hired for a contract job at a hospital because of his race – the hospital cited a bad attitude, namely, the doctor writing a letter (and copying it to Johnnie Cochran) that alleged of racism in the hiring process - Zero p. 8

## Verdict of the Month

**Products Liability** - A teenage girl was left a quadriplegic in a roll-over crash involving a 1984 Ford Bronco II – while this jury awarded damages against her hopelessly underinsured driver (also her sister), Ford was exonerated

*Bear v. Ford Motor Company et al*, 2:05-253

**Plaintiff:** Raymond F. Thomas, *Swanson Thomas & Coon*, Portland, OR and Richard C. Eymann, *Eymann Allison Hunter & Jones*, Spokane, WA

**Defense:** Caryn G. Jorgensen and Kasey D. Heubner, *Mills Meyer Swartling*, Seattle, WA and Donald H. Dawson, Jr. and Kathleen A. Clark, *Dawson & Clark*, Detroit, MI for Ford Motor Company Patrick G. McMahon, *Carlson McMahon & Sealby*, Wenatchee, WA for Motteshard

**Verdict:** Defense verdict on liability for Ford \$6,015,199 for plaintiff assessed against Motteshard only

**Federal:** Washington Eastern - Spokane

**Judge:** Edward F. Shea

**Date:** 3-11-08

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