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VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

Record personal injury verdict scored in DC in med-mal case

\$8,350,000 Verdict

A man and his wife have recovered a verdict in D.C. Superior Court of \$8,350,000. This verdict is a record for personal injury verdicts in D.C., since the Superior Court started keeping comprehensive statistics on all injury verdicts in 2007.

Mr. Robinson underwent a total knee replacement surgery in July 2013 when he was 82 years old, with Rida Azer, M.D., an orthopedic surgeon with offices in Maryland and Virginia. A little over a month later, the leg was dead from lack of blood flow, and other surgeons had to amputate it above the knee.

Plaintiffs alleged that Dr. Azer was negligent before, during and after the knee surgery: for not obtaining a vascular surgery consult before the operation in light of Mr. Robinson's known peripheral artery disease in the operated leg, for using a tourniquet on the thigh that crushed a stent that was propping open the main artery feeding the lower leg, and for ignoring signs after the surgery that the leg was slowly dying.

Before the surgery, Mr. Robinson had been working full-time as an outdoor security guard near Nationals Park in D.C., walking a nightly beat of over five miles despite knee pain from severe arthritis which led him to seek the knee replace-



MALONE



SINGER



TROMBLY

ment. Now, despite an expensive prosthetic leg, Mr. Robinson can barely walk more than a few steps with a walker.

The eight-member jury deliberated most of one day after seven days of trial before returning its verdict of \$6.75 mil-

lion for Mr. Robinson and \$1.6 million for Mrs. Robinson on her consortium claim.

The money will help the Robinsons relocate to a house that will accommodate his disability.

[17-T-102]

Type of action: Medical malpractice

Injuries alleged: Above-knee amputation

Name of case: Robinson v. Azer and American International Orthopaedic Association

Court: Washington D.C. Superior Court

Tried before: Jury

Name of judge: Hon. Neal Kravitz

Date resolved: June 15, 2017

Verdict or settlement: Verdict

Amount: \$8,350,000

Attorneys for plaintiff: Patrick Maloney, Kenneth Trombly and Daniel Singer, Washington, D.C.