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Virginia's Largest Verdicts of 2011

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

#15

\$2.65 million

Confidential

Type of case: Medical Malpractice

Court: Fairfax County Circuit Court

Attorney: William E. Artz, Arlington

Summary: The plaintiff alleged that defendant radiologist missed a left breast abnormality during a screening mammogram.

A year later, the same defendant discovered the abnormality during the annual screening mammogram and recalled the plaintiff for a diagnostic mammogram and ultrasound. Two masses were found in her left breast and a biopsy revealed Stage IIIA breast cancer.

The plaintiff underwent chemotherapy, a quadrantectomy with reconstruction, radiation and hormone therapy. At the time of trial, there was no evidence of metastasis.

The plaintiff alleged that the delay allowed the cancer to progress from curable to incurable. Since the plaintiff would have required the same treatment if her cancer had been timely diagnosed, there were no past medical bills, and the verdict was based solely on mental anguish and future medical bills.



ARTZ