NJ Appellate Division Upholds $7.5 Million Verdict Against ExxonMobil on Behalf of Woman Whose Peritoneal Mesothelioma Was Caused By Laundering Her Husband's Work Clothes

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The New Jersey Appellate Division has affirmed Bonnie Anderson's $7.5 million verdict against Exxon Mobil. Bonnie Anderson, who suffers from peritoneal mesothelioma, was exposed to asbestos from laundering the asbestos-contaminated clothing of her husband who worked at the Exxon Bayway Refinery in New Jersey. This is a landmark decision that will serve to protect the rights of anyone who develops an asbestos-related decease caused by laundering the contaminated work clothes of their spouse.

Bonnie Anderson, a former librarian and avid horseback rider from Linden, NJ (now a resident of Berkeley Heights, NJ), was diagnosed with peritoneal mesothelioma in 2002 when she was 53 years old. So far, Bonnie has battled through two abdominal surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation in an effort to fight her mesothelioma. She also helps other mesothelioma victims through her advocacy with the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation, a national organization dedicated to helping those afflicted with mesothelioma and seeking to cure this fatal disease. Bonnie continues to fight her battle against this disease.

The trial, which was solely to determine the issue of damages, began on May 21, 2008. Previously, in November 2007, a separate Middlesex County jury rendered a verdict in favor of the Andersons in the amount of $500,000 following a six week trial. That jury determined that Bonnie Anderson suffers from an asbestos related peritoneal mesothelioma; that Exxon Mobil Corporation's breach of its duty proximately caused Bonnie Anderson's mesothelioma. Because the 2007 jury only returned a verdict of $500,000 for pain and suffering, and awarded no recovery for the loss of consortium claim, Judge Ann McCormick ordered a new trial on the issue of damages.

The case was tried by Moshe Maimon, who acted as lead counsel, and assisted by John Guinan, New York and New Jersey Mesothelioma Lawyers from Levy Phillips & Konigsberg, LLP.

The defendant at trial was Exxon Mobil Corporation, represented by Christopher Keale of Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP, and Tom Radcliffe of DeHay & Elliston LLP.

For further information on this or other peritoneal mesothelioma lawsuits, please call 212-605-6200 or 1-800-MESO-LAW, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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