

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JURY AWARDS 75-YEAR-OLD, ELTINGVILLE WOMAN OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR INJURIES SUSTAINED WHEN SHE WAS CAUSED TO FALL OFF OF A WHEEL CHAIR LIFT ON A NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY BUS.  
(Names Changed to Protect the Privacy of the Client)**

On Thursday, June 13, 2002, a Staten Island jury awarded Ms. S. of Retford Avenue of the Eltingville section of Staten Island, the sum of \$1,033,852 for injuries she sustained when she was knocked out of her wheelchair as she was being lowered from a Transit Authority bus on July 4, 1997. Ms. S, a polio victim who had been confined to a wheelchair for the past 50 years, claimed that as she was being loaded off of the bus, the driver caused the lift to vigorously shake in such a manner that Ms. S. lost her balance and fell out of her wheel chair.

The accident occurred at approximately 3:00PM on July 4, 1997, at a bus stop at the intersection of Hylan Boulevard and Retford Avenue. Ms. S. suffered painful fractures to both legs as well as an injury to her lower back that her doctor testified was both painful and permanent. She was confined to Staten Island University Hospital for one month and thereafter to Eger Health Care Center for seven months.

**Thomas A. Tormey, Jr.**, a Manhattan trial lawyer and the former President of the Staten Island Trial Lawyers Association, represented Ms. S. during the trial. Assisting Mr. Tormey during the trial was attorney **Adrienne Baranoff** of the firm of Decker & Decker. **Marilyn Venturina** of the firm **Sciretta & Venturina** represented the New York City Transit Authority.