

Dear Jennifer,

On May 17, 2008, we deposed Sylvia Stringham. As you are aware, Ms. Stringham is part of a class action suit against our client, Prosthesis Equipment, Inc. Nelson Arel, Esquire represented Ms. Stringham. Darren Parmley, Esquire of our firm represented our client.

Ms. Stringham is currently 71 years old and a widow. She retired in 2002 after being a schoolteacher for 35 years. Ms. Stringham was diagnosed with arthritis in both hips in 1999, although her left hip has always hurt her more than the right hip. After her retirement in 2002, Ms. Stringham became more physically active, particularly with dancing. After several years of increased activity, her left hip "started to degenerate," which resulted in increased pain.

At the age of 64, she had a left hip prosthesis implanted on July 8, 2004. As you know, the prosthesis was manufactured by Prosthesis Equipment, Inc. Ms. Stringham relays that she had pain immediately from the start after the implantation. In addition, the pain never went away after surgery as one would expect. She described the pain as constant, sharp, and stabbing. The pain worsened with activity.

Ms. Stringham spoke with her surgeon, Jeffrey Mallin, MD, about the pain at her first postoperative visit at his office on July 15, 2004. Dr. Mallin assured her that pain after this type of surgery was common and would gradually go away. However, Ms. Stringham stated that the pain was so bad in August, 2004 that she was unable to bear weight.

Because of the pain, Ms. Stringham had the prosthesis removed by Dr. Mallin in August 2004 and replaced by one from a different manufacturer. Dr. Mallin informed her that the original prosthesis had a vertical crack in it. He told her that he had never seen a crack in a prosthesis like this.

She testified that as a result of the prosthesis, she's never been able to walk correctly despite years of physical therapy. She is in constant pain. She uses a cane and a walker in her home and a wheelchair when she is outside the home. She testified that her social life has been severely limited since the surgery. She used to dance, attend activities at her church and visit her friends. She describes herself now as "almost a shut-in". She feels that the quality of her life has been ruined by Prosthetic Equipment, Inc. and that she should be compensated for her losses.

She found out about the class action suit by happenstance. By searching the internet, she found out that vertical cracks were a problem with this device even before she had her surgery. She contacted Dr. Mallin to find out why he implanted a device that had a history of vertical cracks. He explained to her that he had been unaware of any problems because the manufacturer, Prosthetic Equipment, Inc. had not informed him of any problems with the device. In addition, he told her that he had inspected the device

prior to implantation and there were no cracks in it. Ms. Stringham then obtained a copy of her medical records and found a notation that Dr. Mallin had indeed inspected the equipment prior to implantation. At that point, she searched the internet again and found out about the class action suit. She contacted Attorney Arel about joining the class action suit.

We will continue our efforts and provide you with updates accordingly. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

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