

Cook County &amp; Illinois

**JURY VERDICT REPORTER**

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**PREMISES LIABILITY--FLORIDIAN FEMALE FRACTURES FOOT IN FALL AT FRIDAY'S**  
(ZZ 29/2) *Marilyn Miller v TGI Friday's Inc.* 05C-6445 Tried: Feb. 25-29, 2008 (8)

Verdict: Not Guilty  
Judge: Ronald A. Guzman (USDC IL NE)  
Pltf Atty: Karen M. Mondry of *Mondry & Mondry* (Maywood) Demand: \$550,000 Asked: \$856,000  
Deft Attys: Matthew L. Johnson and William T. Young of *Johnson & Bell* (Self-Insured) Offer: \$75,000  
Pltf Medl: Dr. Jack Kamerman (Family Practice) and Dr. Peter Tomasso (Orthopedist)  
Deft Expert: Dr. Michael M. Ramsey (Internist)

May 30, 2003, pltf F-49 was a patron at TGI Friday's restaurant located at 153 E. Erie St. in Chicago. After completing her meal, she headed to the ladies' room, crossed through the restaurant's bar area, and fell on the stairs leading down to the rest rooms. Pltf was diagnosed with a left foot fracture a few days later, which was casted, and she subsequently developed a pulmonary embolism which required hospitalization for several weeks in a Florida hospital. She remains on anticoagulant medication (Coumadin) to the present and claims she will need it for the rest of her life (\$80,000 past medl., \$4,500 LT 4 weeks as social worker). Pltf contended she fell on a piece of lettuce or drops of water on a stair. Defense asserted pltf's accident occurred because she fell while attempting to maneuver down the stairs, there was no evidence of lettuce or water - even by the admission of pltf's family members who arrived at the scene shortly after her fall, and pltf's testimony was inconsistent as to the specific substance and specific step that she fell on. Defense also contested damages, arguing the pltf was able to ambulate perfectly well and that she no longer needs Coumadin therapy.