

Post-Surgical Care: Two-Person Assist Not Provided.

The Court of Appeal of Louisiana threw out a jury verdict in favor of the hospital and awarded the patient the maximum allowed in Louisiana, \$500,000 in damages for pain and suffering.

The patient who weighed about 300 pounds was in the hospital recovering after bilateral knee replacement surgery.

One CNA tried to transfer her by herself from her wheelchair to the toilet without properly latching the riser seat to the toilet seat, and the patient fell. Two persons, using a gait belt, were absolutely necessary for this transfer, the Court said.

McGlothlin v. Christus St. Patrick Hosp., ___ So. 3d ___, 2010 WL 4628195 (La. App., November 17, 2010).