

Elopement: Jury Awards Damages.

The eighty-seven year-old Alzheimer's patient walked away and reportedly remained AWOL for several hours before he was struck by a car and killed.

The facility reportedly was not state-licensed for dementia care; nor was it equipped to provide safe and secure care for dementia patients. The facility argued unsuccessfully in its own defense that the patient's spouse assumed the risk by checking him into a facility she knew was not licensed or equipped for the task.

The jury in the Superior Court, Los Angeles County, California rendered a verdict against the facility for \$1,480,000 for wrongful death. **Wilson v. Eden Retirement Home, 2008 WL 2564683 (Sup. Ct. Los Angeles Co., California, March 1, 2008).**