

Ohio Lawyers Weekly

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2000

VERDICTS

CIVIL RIGHTS

Age Discrimination

Fredrickson v. Olsten Health Services Corp., et al. (Mahoning County Court of Common Pleas, No. 98CV1937)

\$30 million (punitive); \$675,000 (compensatory) jury award

Nov. 23, 2000

Attorneys for plaintiff: Ellen Simon and Ann-Marie Ahern, Cleveland

The plaintiff worked for the defendant for 13 years as the director of the defendant's Boardman branch. The plaintiff was fired in September 1997 at the age of 68. The plaintiff was told that her termination was part of the corporation's restructuring and downsizing process. The plaintiff alleged that while other younger employees were transferred to other positions in the company, and given jobs that she was qualified to hold, the plaintiff was told that she could retire or be fired.

The jury deliberated for seven hours before voting 7-1 in favor of the plaintiff. (OHLW Dec. 4, 2000)