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CLIFFORD LAW OFFICES  
NEWS

## Clifford Law Obtains Record \$4.5 Million Verdict in Dupage County Injury Case Against Wells Fargo

**CHICAGO, IL (September 2017)** – [Bradley M. Cosgrove](#), partner at Clifford Law Offices, late Wednesday (Sept. 20, 2017) obtained a record verdict on behalf of a 42-year-old woman who suffered permanent and debilitating injuries when a metal door closer at a Wells Fargo branch office became detached and struck her in the head. The verdict is a record in DuPage County for a single plaintiff in non-medical malpractice cases.

Amy Skinger of Aurora was entering the Wells Fargo mortgage lender retail office on Fox Valley Road in Aurora on May 14, 2012, when without warning a the metal door closer unit detached, swung and struck her in the head, knocking her to her knees, and severely aggravating her pre-existing spondylosis. Skinger required both a posterior and anterior cervical fusion at the C3-C4 and C4-C5 levels of her neck and an intrathecal pain pump following the incident. She had a medical history that included a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis in 2009 and a longstanding degenerative disease in her neck.

A six-man-five-woman jury returned the verdict in two hours in DuPage County before Judge Kenneth L. Popejoy in Wheaton following a two-week trial. The jury found Wells Fargo, who was responsible for the maintenance of the door per the terms of a lease, 80 percent at fault and Cannella NY Square, LLC, the owner of the property, 20 percent at fault.

“Amy walked through the entryway of the retail mortgage establishment through the only entrance provided by the defendants, and that entrance was completely unsafe, it was not inspected for years and due to the lack of maintenance this preventable tragedy forever changed her life” Cosgrove said following the verdict. “We are satisfied that the jury followed the law and understood the issues so that justice was served. This verdict will provide necessary medical care to ensure that Amy can obtain lifelong treatment.”

[Charles R. Haskins](#), associate at the firm, also tried the case.

The verdict included \$1.25 million for her disability and \$1.25 million for her pain and suffering, \$1 million for emotional distress as well as more than a half million dollar for her medical bills to date. About a week prior to trial the defendants offered to settle for \$125,000.

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For further information, please contact Clifford Law Offices Communications Partner Pamela Sakowicz Menaker at [847-721-0909](tel:847-721-0909).  
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Skinger v. Wells Fargo Bank and Cannella NY Square, No. 2013 L 000092, Circuit Court of DuPage County.

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