# KENTUCKY DEFENSE VERDICT

#### Ward Hocker Thornton

HT partners Ashley Brown and Graham Barth obtained a defense verdict in favor of their client, Whispering Wheels Roller Rink. In this Nelson County jury trial, the plaintiff, who was attending a roller skating party at the rink, and was wearing roller skates, alleged that rink employees directed her to an alternate restroom in a room off the rink. Employees testified the 55 year-old plaintiff was asked to remove her skates and warned about

a dip in the floor leading to the restroom. The plaintiff disputed she was warned, and as she proceeded over the dip in the floor, she fell, injuring her ankle, elbow and wrist. She sought medical expenses of \$122,000, and her total claim was nearly \$900,000. The jury deliberated 13 minutes and returned a unanimous defense verdict finding the rink did not breach its duty of care.



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