

MISSOURI DIRECTED VERDICT JURY TRIAL



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WWBH Principal Brandon Copeland and Associate Grace Olson brought home a favorable verdict after a week-long jury trial in Warren County, Missouri. Brandon and Grace represented a local builder and his company in a case where Plaintiff alleged that the company negligently installed her in-ground swimming pool resulting in damage to her property and leaving her with a large pool in her backyard that was completely inoperable.

Prior to trial, the Plaintiff had demanded \$300,000 for damages and attorneys' fees and at the close of evidence asked the jury to award her \$200,000.00. In pre-trial negotiations, the Plaintiff was offered \$75,000.00.

During the course of the trial, Brandon and Grace obtained a Directed Verdict for the owner of the company on all counts. At the close of the trial, the jury returned a verdict for Plaintiff only on her count for Negligence in the amount of \$50,000.00 and a verdict in favor of the Defendant company on Plaintiff's Missouri Merchandising Practices Act claims. As a result, Plaintiff cannot receive an award for her attorneys' fees or punitive damages.