



For Immediate Release:

“CHINATOWN” MEETS “AIRPLANE” MTA LOSES JUDGE TRIAL THEN TRIES TO DENY 97-YEAR-OLD VICTOR

Mrs. Yvonne Wilson has been using Los Angeles trains, buses, subways, and even cable cars as her mode of transportation for more than 60 years. At 97 years of age, you would think that the Los Angeles MTA would extend courtesy and caring to such a devoted lifelong patron when she was injured by malfunctioning subway doors. Especially after the MTA admitted liability and also lost a judge trial in this matter. But the fact of the matter is that the MTA has been trying for nearly a year to make sure that Mrs. Wilson does not get the money that she has been awarded. This should be disturbing to every citizen of Los Angeles. Why?

Because if this kind of callous disregard can be visited upon a model senior citizen with health problems caused by an accident, what are YOUR chances in court if you ever have an accident on any of the MTA's buses or trains?

The answer, apparently, is none. Why? Because the MTA made at least FIVE mistakes in this case, EMBARRASSING by any legal standards, and still wants the VICTIM of an accident to bear the brunt of their bungling!

(1) For a year-and-a-half, the MTA attorneys claimed that the train on which the accident took place DID NOT EXIST! During the trial, they SUDDENLY found the train!

(2) MTA claims they wanted a jury trial. Guess what? They never paid the jury trial fees!

(3) MTA claimed they wanted a judge trial. The judge ruled against them. Now they want another judge!

(4) The medical expert that the MTA attorneys CHOSE as a defense witness testified conclusively that Mrs. Wilson's health problems came directly from the train accident! Now they want to choose health experts at our expense until they find one who will agree with them!

(5) Finally, the MTA attorneys claim, as of May 28th, that the reason they are not giving Mrs. Wilson her award is to save us taxpayers money. This is very interesting because the outside counsels and appellate lawyers they are hiring to drag this matter on indefinitely are EXACTLY the people who will be putting OUR tax money into their own pockets indefinitely!

It is interesting to note that the Los Angeles MTA is exhibiting the same lack of concern for the public that the Department of Water and Power did in the movie “Chinatown,” and doing so with the same level of competence as the flight crew in the movie “Airplane.” Although, we can all applaud the MTA for combining film genres in a film town, Rule of Law is not a fiction. The MTA must be asked to take responsibility and do the right thing for a real human being who's suffered enough!

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