

Doctor loses malpractice suit

A Mobile County Circuit Court jury on Thursday awarded \$700,000 to a Mobile man who was paralyzed after radiation therapy.

The jury found against Dr. Ken Ellingwood and in favor of Charles R. Stevens.

John Crowder, Stevens' attorney, said evidence during the four-day trial before Judge Robert Byrd showed that Stevens went in for radiation therapy for a tumor at the base of his tongue.

Crowder said during the therapy, a custom block that is made to protect the spinal cord during the procedure was made, but was "mispositioned so that the spinal cord radiated it," causing Stevens to be paralyzed.

"Our experts said there are ways to verify it, but they didn't verify it. Our experts said if they had taken another simulator film, they could have seen the block was in the wrong place and changed it," added Crowder.

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