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— In the News —

In Circuit Court

The Regional Transportation Authority has agreed to pay \$8.4 million to a woman who suffered severe brain injuries when she was hit by a car after exiting a bus in Evanston, according to the plaintiff's attorney.

Tara Williams, 25, was struck by a car driven by James Vail in March 2004. The claim against Vail was settled for \$1.6 million in 2005.

Williams also sued the RTA because the bus driver didn't drop her off at a regular stop. The area where she got off the bus was a "known dangerous place" for traffic, according to RTA employees, said **Daniel M. Kotin**, who represented Williams. Williams crossed the street against the light and was out of the crosswalk when she was hit, Kotin said.

Williams, who was born with physical and mental disabilities, was completing a program through National Louis University in which she learned how to live independently.

Cook County Circuit Judge **William D. Maddux** approved the final settlement of claims for both lawsuits on Thursday.

In addition to Kotin, **Daniel S. Kirschner** of Corboy & Demetrio P.C. represented Williams. **W. Mark Sickles** of Patton & Ryan LLC represented the RTA. *Tara Williams, etc. v. Regional Transportation Authority*, No. 05 L 2674.