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— In the News —

In federal court

A federal judge awarded more than \$1.8 million to a woman who nearly bled to death while undergoing a procedure to remove an ovarian cyst.

Rosemary Bombela-Tobias underwent laparoscopic surgery in 2002 at Alivio Medical Center, where she served on the board of directors. During the operation, her left iliac artery was lacerated.

She needed a complex abdominal closure and several subsequent surgeries. It took her two years to recover. During this time, she was unable to work, and for most of that time, she had an open abdominal wound.

This suit was originally filed in Cook County Circuit Court, but it was moved to federal court because the doctors were determined to be employees of the United States. The medical center is a federally funded health center.

Barry R. Chafetz of Corboy & Demetrio P.C. represented the plaintiff. The doctors were represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys **Patrick W. Johnson** and **Eileen M. Marutzky**. U.S. District Judge **Samuel P. King** presided over the case, and the order was entered on Wednesday.

Rosemary Bombela-Tobias v. United States of America. No. 05 C 3034.