

New Jersey Law Journal

STATEWIDE LEGAL AUTHORITY SINCE 1878

VOL. CLXXXVI – NO. 6 – INDEX 545

NOVEMBER 6, 2006

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\$800,000 for Fall on Ice

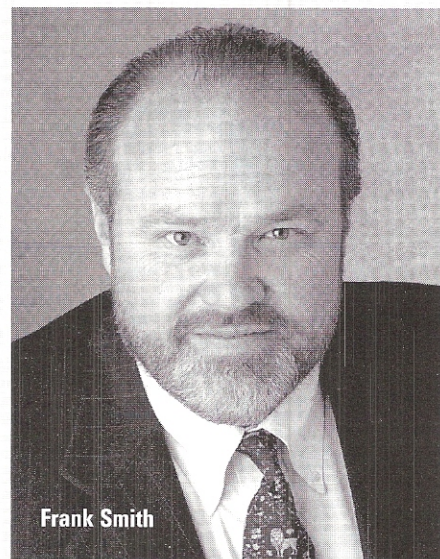
Neeb *v. Society Hill*: A condominium association paid \$800,000 on Oct. 24 to a resident who fell on an icy sidewalk.

Judith Neeb slipped at the Society Hill at Kilmer Woods I condominium in Mahwah on Feb. 24, 2003, hitting her head and passing out, says her lawyer, Westfield solo **Frank Smith**.

Neeb suffered a serious concussion and, now 54, still experiences post-traumatic stress disorder, vertigo and dizziness when she sees a lot of movement and will need spinal fusion surgery because the fall exacerbated a dormant disc herniation, Smith says.

The Bergen County suit named the association, management company Wentworth Management of Hackensack and Kindergan Landscaping of Bergenfield, which performed snow and ice removal for the complex.

The parties settled on Sept. 27 after three private mediation sessions with retired judge **Edward Seaman**. Society Hill paid \$750,000 of the settlement, and Kindergan, which contended it should have been called about the ice but was not, paid \$50,000. The management contract requires Society Hill to indemnify



Frank Smith

Wentworth, says Smith.

Terence Wronko, of Montville's **Kennedy Wronko & Kennedy**, who represents Society Hill and Wentworth, confirms the settlement. Kindergan's lawyer, **Joel Bellush** of a Parsippany firm headed by **Joseph Carolan**, did not return a reporter's call.

— *By Mary Pat Gallagher*