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Jury Awards \$12.8 Million in Class Action Verdict

Cleveland, Ohio | May 8, 2024 – A class action jury verdict has been reached in the case of *Jennifer L. Ayers, et al v. KCI Technologies Inc., et al*, 2014CV00572, marking a significant victory for over 320 owners and former owners of real property in the Aurora East Subdivision, also known as the Bolingbrook Allotment.

The case, which was heard in the Portage County Court of Common Pleas, centered around severe flooding issues within the Aurora East Subdivision, affecting numerous homeowners over the years. The plaintiffs were represented by distinguished legal counsel including Lead Counsel [Thomas J. Connick](#) and [Jenna Bird](#) of Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP, and Co-Lead Counsel Edward A. Proctor of Kim & Associates, LLC, and Edward W. Cochran of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Throughout the trial, counsel alleged negligence, nuisance, and trespass against the Portage County Engineer, Portage County, and Portage County Board of Commissioners. After careful deliberation, the jury rendered a class action verdict, in favor of the plaintiffs, awarding over \$12.8 million in damages. This verdict signifies a resounding testament to the compelling case, extensive evidence, and thoughtful testimony presented throughout the trial.

“We are pleased with the jury’s decision and believe that it reflects the gravity of the situation faced by the residents of the Aurora East Subdivision,” said Tom Connick, Lead Counsel for the plaintiffs. “This verdict sends a clear message that those responsible for neglecting the safety and well-being of our community will be held accountable.”

“We commend the courage and resilience of the homeowners who came forward to seek justice in the case,” added Connick. “Their perseverance has been instrumental in achieving this outcome, and our entire legal team remains committed to ensuring that their voices are heard, and their rights protected.”

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About Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP

Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP is a full-service law firm. With experience dating back to 1867, the firm focuses on delivering excellent client service by providing forward-thinking and creative solutions to complex legal problems. With 30 lawyers licensed to practice in six states, Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell (SSSB) provides its clients with a broad range of services, including litigation, business law, real estate, family law, taxation, trusts and estates.

SSSB's litigation group has consistently demonstrated an impressive track record in a wide range of matters and jurisdictions, including the Ohio Supreme Court. This team of experienced litigators is recognized for their devotion to advocating for the rights of their clients and the principles of justice.

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