

LARGEST VERDICTS

#2. \$14M verdict reached in wrongful death case *Propane gas leaked into family's home*

This case was a matter of the wrongful death of a mother, father and two young children due to leaking propane gas in their home on a hog farm.

Plaintiff's counsel said multiple experts presented cause and origin and scientific

testimony, while the defendants claimed causation could not be established.

A Van Buren County jury agreed with the plaintiffs, awarding loss of society and companionship damages awards to each of the survivors of the four estates for a to-

tal of \$14.1 million.

Type of action: Wrongful death

Type of injuries: Death of father, mother, and two children

Name of case: Lotz v. Signature Farms, et al.

Court/case no./date: Van Buren County

Circuit Court; #04-52-204-NO; Feb. 3, 2006

Name of judge: William C. Buhl

Verdict amount: \$14.1 million

Attorneys for the plaintiff: Thomas J. Wuori, Steven H. Weston and E. Thomas McCarthy

Attorney for the defendant: Withheld