

## Dementia Patient Scalded, Was Left Unattended In Hot Shower.

A jury in the Circuit Court, Manatee County, Florida reportedly awarded \$4,522,617.61 to the widow of a seventy-six year-old resident of a nursing facility.

The deceased sustained second and third degree burns over his lower body after he was left alone in the shower. The judge allowed the jury to see photos of the patient's burns during the trial.

On top of inadequate supervision by the facility's care-giving staff, it came out in court that the facility had been issued a warning beforehand by government inspectors that the building's hot-water thermostat needed to be adjusted because the water in the showers was too hot.

Most of the damages, all but several thousand dollars, were not for the patient's pain and suffering during the month before he expired, but for the widow's own emotional pain over the tragic loss of her companion of sixty years. **Eisenwinter v. Palmetto Guest Home**, 2009 WL 2385333 (Cir. Ct. Manatee Co., Florida, April 28, 2009).