

## Fall From Chair: Jury Finds No Negligence.

The eighty-six year-old patient was in the hospital recovering from a cardiac procedure.

Her fall assessment was that she was a high fall risk. She was left alone sitting in her chair next to a tray with a wash bowl with instructions from her nurse to wash herself. When the nurse returned she was on the floor with a broken hip. She died several months later in a nursing home from complications from the hip fracture.

The jury in the Court of Common Pleas, Mahoning County, Ohio accepted testimony from the nurse that they correctly assessed her as capable of following instructions and saw to it she had her call bell within reach. **Carsonie v. St. Elizabeth Hosp.**, 2008 WL 6101407 (Ct. Comm. Pl. Mahoning Co., Ohio, December 12, 2008).