

## **Firm Successfully Defends Renaissance Hotel in Brain Injury Case**

Texas attorney Tim Perkins, along with senior litigation counsel Steve Smith recently obtained a *take nothing judgment* on behalf of the Dallas Renaissance Hotel in a traumatic brain injury case. The plaintiffs demanded \$8,000,000 before trial and sought nearly \$6 million in actual damages from a Dallas County jury, plus additional damages for pain and suffering, disfigurement and punitive damages.

On April 20, 2008, Plaintiff Donna Baer, a veterinarian, was attending a seminar at the Marriott Renaissance Dallas. A cord cover had been temporarily placed over an expansion joint which was in the process of being repaired. Plaintiffs claimed the cord cover was not properly secured to the floor, and the expansion joint which it covered had been left in a state of disrepair. Dr. Baer claimed the cord cover caused her to fall, resulting in serious brain and orthopedic injuries.

Renaissance contended the cord cover was properly secured and was not an unreasonably dangerous condition. Jurors in Judge Mark Greenberg's court in Dallas County agreed, and attributed no negligence or damages whatsoever to the hotel.

**The case is Donna and Richard Baer v. Renaissance Hotel Management Company, LLC, No. CC-09-08780.**

### **About Tim Perkins**

Perkins was named as a Super Lawyer in 2012 and has received an "AV Preeminent" rating by Martindale-Hubble for more than ten years for achieving the highest possible rating in both legal ability and ethical standards.

### **About Stephen B. Smith**

Stephen Smith is Chair of the Insurance and Defense Section at Underwood Perkins, P.C., and also received an "AV Preeminent" rating by Martindale-Hubble. He has 25 years of experience in assisting insureds and insurers in handling claims. He has authored a number of articles for legal publications and is a frequent speaker at continuing legal and insurance education seminars.

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