



JUDGE, JAMES, HOBAN & FISHER, LLC

Lawyers For The Defense

422 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 200
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-3283
Phone: 847/292-1200 Fax: 847/292-1208
www.judgetd.com



Jay Judge Kathy James Robert Hoban Dustin Fisher

Judge, James, Hoban & Fisher, LLC, is a defense firm defending insurers, self-insureds, and local public entities, with heavy emphasis on trials, appeals and insurance coverage.



Law Offices in Park Ridge

NOT GUILTY FOR THE DEFENSE – DENTAL MALPRACTICE – GOOD GUYS WIN

**DEMAND: \$75,000 – OFFER: NONE –
ASKED JURY: \$221,000 – VERDICT: NOT GUILTY**

The Rest Of The Story

Plaintiff Roumyana Boneva sued Dr. Cvetan Mechev, DDS, for alleged improper, negligently-restored upper crowns, claiming the dental restoration created a deep overbite causing her smile to be uneven.

Robert Hoban, partner at Judge, James, Hoban & Fisher, LLC, tried the case for Dr. Mechev before Judge Thomas V. Lyons, II in Cook County. The jury, in just over 2 hours, returned a “Not Guilty” for Dr. Mechev.

Dr. Mechev’s insurer is Fortress Insurance Co., a provider of Professional Liability insurance for general dentists and dental specialties, and is owned and operated by dentists, insuring only dentists. The Claims Analyst for Fortress was Justina De Grado, J.D. who supported Dr. Mechev’s decision to try the case and make no offer to settle.



To The Victor Goes The Glory

Dr. Mechev was an excellent, believable and persuasive witness. He was supported by expert opinion witness, Dr. Peter S. Hurst, F.D.S., head of the Northwestern Memorial Hospital Dental Department who testified Dr. Mechev far exceeded the standard of care and his work up of the case was of impeccable technical quality.

To refute Plaintiff’s alleged uneven smile, Robert located Plaintiff’s vacation photos on Facebook showing her bright and beaming smile. The jury found the photos of a smiling Plaintiff persuasive in discrediting her story. Robert felt it was the old axiom that: “A picture is worth a 1,000 words.”

We believe a “Not Guilty” at trial “sends a message” to Plaintiffs’ attorneys and it results in settlements on cases to be settled for a lower than the average settlement for similar cases.

The Message the Defense win sends is this: Plaintiffs’ attorneys do not want to go to trial against defense firms and insurance companies and self-insureds who have a reputation for trying cases.