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VIRGINIA'S LARGEST VERDICTS OF 2008

NEGLIGENCE / CONSTRUCTIVE FRAUD

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\$4.75 million

Meng v. The Drees Company

Type of Case: Toxic mold injuries from negligently constructed home

Court: Loudoun County Circuit Court

Attorneys: David Hilton Wise, James P. Lukes, Fairfax

Summary: A couple contended that mold in their new \$900,000 home sickened them and rendered the house unlivable. They alleged that the mold developed because the contractor did not allow the structure to dry before installing insulation and sheetrock.

The jury awarded the wife, who had migraine headaches and other ailments, \$2.28 million for negligence. Her husband was awarded \$500,000 for negligence, and the couple was awarded \$1.47 million for constructive fraud and \$500,000 for violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Post trial motions, including a contention that some of the awards are duplicative, are set for next month.



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