

**3** Seyfarth adds inclusion and diversity officer / Reed Smith names new litigation chair / ACLU hires new Institutional Reform Project director

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facilitation of agreements, not psychotherapy.

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**TRIAL  
NOTEBOOK**

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## Lawsuit fails to prove qui tam charges

*Fraud requirements*

## \$2.9M settlement in collapsed ceiling lawsuit

Woman alleged she alerted building owners of leak more than year before roof caved in

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A woman who was pregnant when her South Side apartment ceiling collapsed on her has settled her lawsuit for \$2.9 million.

The settlement was reached during the trial in Cook County Circuit Court on June 11, according to one of the plaintiff's attorneys Craig D. Tobin, a partner at Tobin & Muñoz LLC.

Cook County Circuit Judge Thomas J. Lipscomb entered the

settlement.

On July 29, 2012, Caprise Lewis was living in the Plaza on the Park apartment complex on East 51st Street in Bronzeville when a portion of her ceiling fell on top of her.

At the time, Lewis was eight months pregnant with her son, Michael Barnett, who was born premature and has since been diagnosed with a developmental delay.

Lewis, individually and on behalf



**Craig D. Tobin**

of her son, sued Plaza on the Park, and Metroplex, the managing agent for the complex, in April

2017. North Washington Park Partnership was also a defendant.

In the lawsuit, Lewis argued she alerted the defendants to the leak in her ceiling more than a year before the collapse in April 2011, and the failure to repair the leak resulted in the collapse.

She also claims the defendants' willful and wanton conduct was the cause of the injuries to her and her son, including his premature birth and resulting developmental delay.

The defendants denied the allegations in the complaint.

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## Man can sue to bring hog