

## VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

### Bar settles for \$525,000 following fight that injured patron

■ KALLIE COX

A plaintiff who sued a bar following a fight that left him injured has obtained a \$525,000 settlement.

The fight occurred in Lafayette County and left the plaintiff with severe injuries. The establishment itself is not named in the settlement submission, which is confidential.

Tyler Waugh of Sandberg Phoenix, who represented the defendant, was not available for comment.

Andrew S. LeRoy of Bautista LeRoy in Kansas City said his client was at the bar to watch a sporting event when he got into a physical altercation with another patron. After this initial fight, he tried to leave the bar when he was caught in the crossfire of a second fight between patrons and was sucker punched.

LeRoy's client's injuries included a "traumatic brain injury with left frontal lobe hemorrhage, vestibular dysfunction, cognitive dysfunction, a right rotator cuff tear involving two tendons, a right ankle fracture, orbital injury causing double vision and blurriness and a cervical injury causing numbness and loss of strength in the right thumb and wrist.

The plaintiff alleged claims of negligent security and dram shop against the bar. According to LeRoy, this is because the bar overserved its patrons and did not have any security measures. He said their discoveries after investigating the bar's owners led to a high settlement.

"When they bought the bar, they didn't do any training we discovered of their staff. They had volunteers as their staff, just their friends. So, they had no security training," LeRoy said. "Then they had prior instances of fights that had occurred at the bar and then on top of it (...) we figured out that if they would have called the police after the first time, that more than likely, the police would have been there and the second fight never would have occurred."

LeRoy said he knew his client would have some liability after taking part in the first fight but using the establishment's two insurance policies to cover the negligent security and dram shop claims, he was able to obtain a settlement of \$525,000.

Also worth noting was that this occurred in a conservative rural county of Missouri where dram

shop cases are difficult to win, LeRoy said.

"Having the knowledge of the prior fights and having the knowledge of the lack of training really helped us establish our claim," he said.

**Amount of verdict, judgment, or settlement:** \$525,000

**Type of action:** Settlement/  
Negligent Security/Bar Fight

**Venue:** Lafayette County Circuit Court (MO)

**Case Number/Date:** Confidential  
/ 4/9/2025

**Judge:** N/A

**Injuries:** Head, brain, neck

**Insurer:** N/A

**Caption:** Confidential v.  
Confidential

**Plaintiffs' Attorneys:** Andrew S. LeRoy of Bautista LeRoy LLC (Kansas City, Missouri)

**Defendants' Attorneys:** Tyler Waugh of Sandberg Phoenix (Kansas City, Missouri)