

## **Tort - Student Assaulted By Willie M Student - Post - Traumatic Stress Disorder - \$1 Million Default Judgment Against Defendant**

By: dmc-admin August 26, 2002

**Brief statement of claim:** The plaintiff was sexually assaulted by a classmate on the premises of the public high school where she was enrolled as a mentally handicapped student. The assault occurred between two portable classrooms during a daily walk around the campus. The defendant was a Willie M student.

**Principal injuries (in order of severity):** Assault; plaintiff was subsequently diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder

**Special damages:** \$616 in medical bills

**Tried or settled:** Default judgment against assaulting defendant

**County where tried or settled:** New Hanover

**Case name and number:** *Linda J. Dunbar, Individually and as Guardian Ad Litem for Isamae C. Johnson, A Minor v. Antwine D. Williams et al* (00 CvS 2200)

**Date concluded:** Sept. 10, 2001

**Name of judge:** Benjamin Alford

**Amount:** \$1 million

**Insurance carrier:** n/a

**Expert witnesses and areas of expertise:** Julie West, licensed clinical social worker/psychotherapist, testified on behalf of the plaintiff regarding treatment and therapy provided following the assault

**Attorney for plaintiff:** M. Troy Slaughter of The Slaughter Law Firm, P.C., Wilmington

**Other useful info:** The plaintiff's teacher was named as a co-defendant in the action under a theory of negligent supervision. Resolution of the plaintiff's claim against the teacher is subject to a confidentiality agreement. The classmate defendant was convicted of felony crime against nature as a result of the assault on the plaintiff.

