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Sonogram jury awards \$7.6M

BY DANIEL OSTROVSKY
Daily Record Legal Affairs Writer

After a two-week trial, a Baltimore jury yesterday returned a \$7.6 million verdict in favor of an Ellicott City couple against a radiologist and **American Radiology Services Inc.**

According to the complaint filed by Alan and Jodi Gimbel in December 2004, Dr. Naomi S. Kraut failed to recognize signs of a chromosomal abnormality on a sonogram performed at approximately 20 weeks of gestation. The couple's son was born on July 7, 2004.

"The jury recognized the substantial medical and

other care needs that this family has for the rest of the child's life," said attorney Andrew G. Slutkin, who represented the parents with co-counsel Stephen L. Snyder and Tomeka Church, all of **Snyder Slutkin & Snyder.**

The issue in the case was that "they had a guideline at American Radiology that they violated," Slutkin said.

Gary R. Jones, an attorney for Baltimore-based American Radiology, did not return a call for comment by press time yesterday.

The plaintiffs presented five experts and multiple fact witnesses during trial

before Baltimore City Circuit Judge Albert J. Matricciani Jr. The jury deliberated for more than a day, the lawyer said.

A non-economic damage award of \$4.5 million is likely to be capped at \$650,000, Slutkin acknowledged. However, \$3.1 million in economic damages will stand, he said.

"It's probably the largest verdict in a case like this in Maryland," Slutkin said.

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