



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TEMPORARY WORKER INJURED BY TOILET DOOR WINS COMPENSATION

Personal injury solicitors, Bolt Burdon Kemp issued a warning to employers to be aware that agency staff working on temporary assignments had the same rights to a safe working environment as permanent employees.

Mrs Ann Jordan suffered a head injury, a lateral sprain to her cervical spine, and aggravated an existing back complaint when a toilet door fell on her whilst she was working for Circle 33, a Housing Association based in North London in 2002.

Caroline Kerr, Solicitor at Islington based, Bolt Burdon Kemp said "My client was injured by the door to the ladies toilet falling on her. A work colleague had suffered a similar accident a few weeks earlier. It's important that employers and the companies responsible for maintenance are aware of their obligations and act when problems occur. If they had done so my client's accident could have been prevented."

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Medical experts advised Mrs Jordan that it would take up to 2 years to recover from her injuries. Nearly 3 years later she is still in pain and discomfort.

Mrs Jordan said "Following the accident, I was amazed that there were no policies or procedures in place to deal with this type of situation. Even though I was still in pain, I had to go back to work within 3 weeks of the accident because I wasn't getting my salary any more. I'd spent 9 months with Circle 33 and was disappointed to be treated this way."

Circle 33 denied liability for the injury, claiming that Mrs Jordan was not their employee and that responsibility for maintenance of the toilets was down to Omnibus Workspace Ltd, who managed the building.

Following legal proceedings against Circle 33 and Omnibus Workspace Ltd, despite earlier denials of liability, both organisations accepted responsibility and Mrs Jordan was awarded £4600 in compensation.

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