

(1983 Nov. 13)

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
AL-1268

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Dead tell tales — Exhumations of bodies to get evidence in crimes is standard procedure. But an autopsy four years after a South Side worker died showed he was a victim of a job-related disease and it meant a substantial compensation award to his widow and two children.

Attorney Joel Persky said the victim was a rigger at the Jones &

Laughlin Steel Corp. plant who died of cancer. He had been exposed to asbestos around coke batteries.

It first was believed the worker died of liver cancer. But a pathologist who performed the belated autopsy, said it was lung cancer, with the asbestos "a substantial contributing factor."

The state Bureau of Workmen's Compensation ruled the company should pay the widow for funeral and case costs, plus some \$55,000 in back wages and \$213 weekly — about half her husband's wage — less 20 percent attorney's fees.

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