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NEWS



## 'She Had No Idea That He Died': Attorney Triumphs for Client After 2 Adverse Decisions



"She has earned her day in court," said Eric Grayson, counsel for the plaintiff.



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News



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Litigation Reporter



In a case involving alleged tortious interference with the will of a Connecticut man, the state Supreme Court reversed the trial and appellate courts' decisions to grant summary judgment to the defendants, and remanded the case to the Superior Court for a jury trial.

According to the Supreme Court's [decision](#), the Probate Court admitted Michael Solon's will. Because the decedent's will was admitted, the trial and appellate courts ruled that the man's wife, Linda, could not pursue her civil tort action, the opinion said.

"The Supreme Court held that the plaintiff was entitled to sue the individual defendants for interfering with her right to have the prenuptial agreement amended, such that it was a postnuptial agreement and more generous," Eric Grayson of Grayson & Associates, counsel for the plaintiff, said. "The Supreme Court found that anything done in the Probate Court did not affect the claim related to the prenuptial agreement because it's a tort claim that is outside of the Probate Court's purview."

The plaintiff, a retired fourth grade art teacher from the Darien public school system, alleged in the [complaint](#) that the decedent's son, Joshua Solon, and lawyer Joseph M. Slater interfered with her "contractual relations" and right of inheritance by "exercising undue influence over her husband," the opinion said.

The defendant’s counsel, William N. Wright and John W. Cannavino of Cummings & Lockwood, did not respond to a request for comment.

The decedent and plaintiff got married in 2013, and the decedent had two adult children from a previous marriage, the opinion said. The new couple signed a prenuptial agreement, the opinion said.

Shortly after the marriage, the decedent was diagnosed with cancer, the opinion said. The decedent wanted to amend the prenuptial agreement to make sure his wife—the plaintiff—was "taken care [of] financially for the remainder of her life," the complaint said.

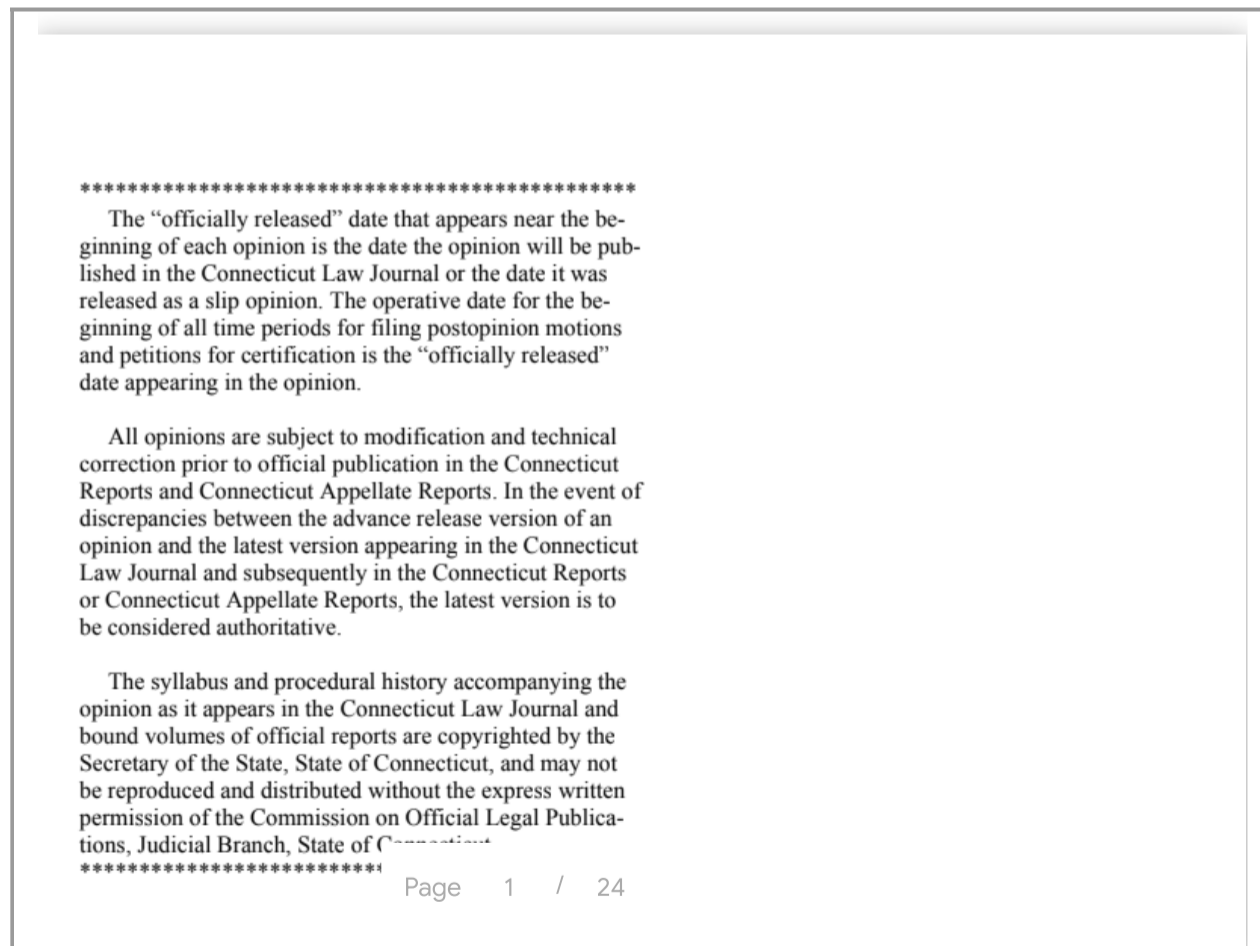
However, according the opinion, the defendants brought the decedent to the home of his former wife, Lori Solon, in Long Island. The move was allegedly not voluntary, and the plaintiff was not able to communicate freely with the decedent, the opinion said. The plaintiff was also not immediately informed that her husband had died, the opinion said.

“Part of the allegations in the complaint is that the death certificate was falsified, such that it read he was divorced, instead of married, such that the next of kin was the decedent’s family, and not the plaintiff,” Grayson said. “She had no idea that he died, and that the shiva had been held, until she was notified after the fact by a third party.”

Grayson said it was a challenge to overcome two adverse decisions, and then get a win in the state Supreme Court.

“The case got remanded back to the Superior Court, and my client is going to proceed to present her claims to a jury, which is what she’s been fighting for since the case was brought and since it was dismissed,” Grayson said. “She had to request certification from the Supreme Court because you can’t appeal as of right, and the certification was granted. Then she prevailed in the Supreme Court, so she has earned her day in court.”

### Read the opinion:



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