

\$3,635,000

Retail Store Electrical Explosion
GENERAL NEGLIGENCE

FACTS: Plaintiff, a 59-year-old store planner for a retail clothing business, was in the process of opening a new store for his company. The job fell far behind schedule. The date for the grand opening was postponed several times. The job superintendent for the general contractor attempted to provide electrical power to the store so it could open for business by bypassing the electrical meter. An explosion occurred. Plaintiff was standing near the job superintendent at the moment of the explosion and sustained burn injuries.

CONTENTIONS: Plaintiff contended that the job fell far behind schedule due to the actions of the general contractor, that the job superintendent was attempting to bypass the meter to gain power to the store so the store could finally open, and that the superintendent had no electrical training and thereby caused the explosion. Defendant claims that the job superintendent was pressured by Plaintiff to bypass the meter since Plaintiff demanded power to the store and was threatening a lawsuit, that the job superintendent was given permission and instructions as to how to bypass the meter by the Department of Water and Power, and that the explosion was entirely the Plaintiff's fault since he was standing directly behind the superintendent watching him jump the meter when Plaintiff accidentally bumped into the superintendent making him cause the explosion.

INJURIES: Burn injuries to approximately 30 percent of his body surface.

DONLEY v. SEAPORT CONSTRUCTION, INC., et al.

CASE NUMBER: BC 227517

LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT