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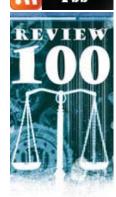
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Inside Track

The price of hot coffee at a Disney resort

September 15, 2003

decade ago, Mickey Ds was hit with a big jury verdict in a negligence case involving an elderly woman who spilled hot coffee on her lap that she had bought at a McDonald's

restaurant. Now another famous Mickey has been splashed in the face, legally speaking, with scalding

In October 2001, Miami Beach residents Andrew and Elizabeth Allocco were breakfasting with their 2-year-old daughter at the Polynesian Resort Hotel at Disney World in Orlando. During the meal, the beaming Alloccos posed for a photo with Mickey Mouse.

Moments later, a waitress came by with a carafe of coffee. Holding the pot on a tray at shoulder height, she accidentally spilled all 28 ounces of java - later measured at about 180 degrees Fahrenheit - on the lap of Andrew Allocco, then 31.

Shrieking in pain, Allocco scampered about the restaurant, shedding his steaming clothes. An offduty police officer wrapped Allocco in ice. The Miami Beach man later was treated at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. He suffered firstand second-degree burns to his groin, waist and upper thighs, and spent four days in the hospital. After that, he was bedridden for six weeks.

In February of last year, the Alloccos sued Walt Disney World Co. in Orange Circuit Court, claiming negligence and loss of consortium.

At first glance, the case seems strikingly similar to the 1992 McDonald's hot coffee case that was widely criticized as an example of the civil justice system run amok.

In the McDonald's case, a New Mexico jury awarded \$2.9 million to a 79-yearBy: Matthew Haggman

April 26, 2009

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From left, Elizabeth, Anabella and Andrew Allocco with Mickey Mouse in October 2001 at the Polynesian Resort Hotel at Disney World in Orlando.

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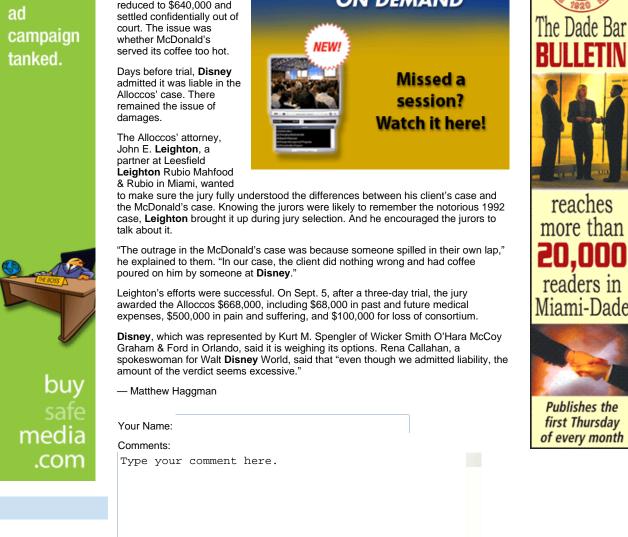


Your ad campaign old women who spilled coffee on her lap while sitting in the passenger seat of her grandson's car. The verdict was later reduced to \$640,000 and court. The issue was whether McDonald's



reaches

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