

15 Trials Digest 7th 9, 2003 WL 23472138 (Cal.Superior) (Verdict and Settlement Summary)

Copyright (c) 2023 Thomson Reuters/West
Superior Court, Los Angeles County, California.

Wang vs. Sony

TOPIC:

Synopsis: Sony employee fired after back surgery

Case Type: Employment; Termination; Violation of Public Policy; Employment; Retaliation; Employment; Disability/Medical Condition

DOCKET NUMBER: BC220918

STATE: California

COUNTY: Los Angeles

Verdict/Judgment Date: July 31, 2003

JUDGE: [Ricardo A. Torres](#)

ATTORNEYS:

Plaintiff: [Charles T. Mathews](#), Mathews & Rager, Pasadena.; [Jeffrey A. Rager](#), Mathews & Rager, Pasadena.

Defendant: Richard Marquez, Littler Mendelson, San Diego.; [Jeremy A. Roth](#), Littler Mendelson, San Diego.

SUMMARY:

Verdict/Judgment: Plaintiff

Verdict/Judgment Amount: \$1,450,000

Range: \$1,000,000-\$1,999,999

The case settled for a confidential amount.

Trial Type: Jury

Trial Length: 7 days.

Deliberations: Not reported.

Jury Poll: Not reported.

EXPERTS:

Plaintiff: Not reported.

Defendant: Not reported.

TEXT:

CASE INFORMATION

FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to Plaintiff: Plaintiff claimed retaliation in violation of the California Family Rights Act (CFRA). The plaintiff was Klaus Wang, a 54-year-old technician. The defendant was Sony Electronics, Inc. Plaintiff was employed as a technician for 14 years. In August 1999, he informed his supervisors that he was facing back surgery. He took leave under the CFRA. The day he returned to work he was fired. Had plaintiff worked three more months, he would have vested in medical benefits until age 65.

CLAIMED INJURIES

According to Plaintiff: Emotional distress.

CLAIMED DAMAGES

According to Plaintiff: Loss of earnings; emotional distress damages.

SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

According to Plaintiff: Demand: \$600,000. Offer: \$76,000.

COMMENTS

According to Plaintiff: Post-trial motions were denied.

Trials Digest, A Thomson/West business
Los Angeles County Superior Court/Downtown