

Woman awarded \$3.76 million in damages

by UPI

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. - Delray Beach, Fla., owes 38-year-old housekeeper Marguene St. Juste \$2.25 million for failing to protect her from a dog attack.

St. Juste was awarded \$3.76 million by a jury for injuries she sustained when she was mauled by a neighbor's Rottweilers in November 2002, the Palm Beach Post reported Friday.

The jury found the city of Delray Beach 60 percent responsible for St. Juste's injuries and the dogs' owner, Keli Nowling, 40 percent responsible.

St. Juste reportedly will never have full use of her right arm again because of the attack, said attorney Brian Smith.

But, just because the jury ruled in her favor does not mean that the money will be easy to collect.

Nowling, who now owes St. Juste \$1.5 million, moved to Texas.

Assistant City Attorney Terrill Barton also said she would recommend the city commission appeal the verdict.

Also, a city government can only be held liable for up to \$100,000 under Florida law.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Woman awarded \$3.76 million in damages by UPI