

GOVERNMENT LIABILITY

Light pole: Electrocution: Improper wire inspection, repair: Defective wiring: Wrongful death: Settlements.

Reilly v. City of Philadelphia, Pa., Philadelphia County C.C.P., No. 4063, June Term, 1993, Jan. 17, 1995.

When Reilly, 23, leaned against a light pole on the street, he suffered fatal electrocution injuries. Reilly, who was unemployed at the time of the accident, is survived by his father.

Reilly's estate sued the city, alleging that it had failed to properly inspect and repair the pole's wires after it was knocked down about six months before the accident. Plaintiff also sued General Electric Company, alleging defective design of the pole in that the type and placement of its wires enabled them to become pinched, electrifying the pole.

Plaintiff settled with the city for \$150,000 and with General Electric for \$23,500.

Plaintiff's Counsel:

*Michael F. Barrett, Philadelphia, Pa.