

Defense Verdict in Products Liability Trial

**Daven v Wing Enterprises Inc. n/k/a Little Giant Ladder Systems, LLC.
Contra Costa County Superior Court**

William S. Kronenberg



On April 8, 2026, a jury in the Contra Costa County Superior Court, California found in favor of Little Giant Ladder Systems, LLC in a strict products liability trial that began on March 17, 2026. Plaintiff Fred Daven sustained a spinal cord injury when an articulated extendable Velocity M-26 ladder manufactured by Little Giant slid out while he was painting a house on May 13, 2018. Although the plaintiff claimed to have read the ladder set-up instructions, because of a window and awning, he was unable to achieve a 75-degree angle and did not change the configuration of the ladder from extension mode. Plaintiff underwent an emergency C3-C7 laminectomy and C2-T2 posterior fusion with instrumentation. His pre-trial settlement demand was \$25 Million. The jury rejected the claim of defective design and found that the Plaintiff caused the slide out due to his improper set-up of the ladder.

Little Giant was represented by William Kronenberg, an Oakland based trial attorney.

Will Kronenberg has tried over 100 cases to verdict in the Federal and State courts throughout California, and the United States. Kronenberg Law (www.krolaw.com) specializes in the defense of catastrophic injury, wrongful death, sexual abuse and complex business disputes.