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PRESS RELEASE

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Press Release Issued by McLeod Law Group: *Albert Reeves v. Town of Cottageville and Randall Price.*

MCLEOD LAW GROUP WINS 97.5 MILLION DOLLAR JURY VERDICT IN FEDERAL COURT ON BEHALF OF THE ESTATE OF ALBERT REEVES

Yesterday evening McLeod Law Group won a verdict on behalf of the two minor children of Albert “Bert” Reeves for 97,500,000.00 dollars in the United States District Court. The jury deliberated for 4 hours before returning their unanimous verdict at 7:00 p.m. The lawsuit stemmed from the fatal shooting of the former Mayor of Cottageville, Bert Reeves, by a Cottageville police officer, Randall Price, on May 16, 2011.

The jury returned a verdict for the Plaintiff on all causes of action including Municipal Liability for Negligent Hiring against the Town of Cottageville and Excessive Force against Officer Randall Price. At trial the attorney for Cottageville argued the town should not be responsible for hiring a police officer with a checkered past and had done nothing wrong even though the process of hiring Randall Price and the handling of the shooting death of Bert Reeves was in contrary to its own policies and procedures. The jury rejected Officer Price’s claim of self-defense. The jury awarded \$7.5 million in actual damages, \$60 million in punitive damages against the Town of Cottageville and \$30 million in punitive damages against Randall Price.

In response to last night’s verdict, lead trial attorney Mullins McLeod stated, “All Bert ever wanted to do was to provide for his kids and the jury allowed him to do that through this verdict.” “In most lawsuits one party has the long end of the stick and the other party has the short end, in this case, the Reeves family had a branch and the town and Randall Price didn’t have as much as a splinter.”



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The children's mother, Ashley Reeves Lowe, stated, "I cannot thank the jury enough for their courage to do justice in this case. My children take great comfort in knowing their father's name has been cleared and that this officer will no longer carry a gun and a badge."

Trial attorney James B. Moore III added, "Law enforcement officers have the authority to wield tremendous power. As such, it is vital to screen out those individuals who are likely to use excessive force, to abuse their powers, and to violate the constitutional rights of the general public. The jury's verdict demonstrates the Town of Cottageville was deliberately indifferent to the constitutional rights of its citizens."

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