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IKEA Dresser Tip-Over Case Settles for \$46 Million; IKEA Agrees to Expand Efforts to Recall Unstable Dressers.

The settlement is believed to be the largest child wrongful death recovery in American history

PHILADELPHIA – January 6, 2020 — Plaintiffs’ personal injury law firm Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelernter Tanner Weinstock Dodig LLP has secured a \$46 million settlement of a lawsuit filed on behalf of a 2-year-old California boy who was fatally injured by a tip-over of an IKEA MALM three-drawer dresser. The settlement, believed to be the largest child wrongful death recovery in American history, includes non-monetary terms intended to protect other children from IKEA furniture tip-over incidents.

On May 24, 2017, Jozef Dudek was put in bed for a nap by his father in their home in Buena Park, California. When he returned to his son's bedroom to check on him, he found Jozef under the dresser. Jozef died later that day from crush injuries to his neck which caused him to suffocate. The lawsuit filed by Jozef’s parents on June 18, 2018 alleged that IKEA knew of many injuries and deaths associated with tip-overs of the MALM line of dressers prior to Jozef’s death but failed to take adequate measures to improve the safety and stability of the dressers. IKEA dressers, including the MALM which caused Jozef Dudek’s fatal injuries, were recalled in 2016 as part of one of the largest consumer recalls in United States history. The recall occurred only after Feldman Shepherd had filed lawsuits on behalf of two other families whose children were killed by MALM dresser tip-overs, and IKEA was placed on notice of the death of a third child whose family was also represented by Feldman Shepherd.

The settlement followed a mediation before Rodney Max, a nationally recognized mediator for complex civil cases. It includes the following provisions intended to keep children safe in their bedrooms:

- IKEA will meet with representatives of Parents Against Tip-overs, an advocacy organization fighting for mandatory stability standards for dressers.
- IKEA has committed to broaden its outreach to consumers about the existence of the recall of MALM and other model IKEA dressers. We believe this campaign must include a social media campaign, emails to their database of contacts, and additional emails to purchasers of the recalled dressers.
- The Dudek family will donate \$1 million from the settlement to consumer organizations that have been advocating for more rigorous stability testing for dressers. The three organizations are Kids in Danger, Consumer Reports, and the Consumer Federation of America.

The litigation was led by Feldman Shepherd product liability attorneys Alan M. Feldman, Daniel J. Mann and Edward S. Goldis, who also represented the families of Curren Collas of West Chester, Pennsylvania, Camden Ellis of Snohomish, Washington, and Ted McGee of Apple Valley, Minnesota, all of whom perished from MALM dresser tip-overs. As part of a \$50 million settlement in 2016 of these three cases, IKEA agreed to redesign its dressers to comply with the national voluntary standard for tip-over safety and stability. Nevertheless, millions of the unsafe older model dressers remain in the homes of consumers around the country.

Mr. Feldman said “We will continue to seek justice for the families we represent who have been victimized by dangerously unstable dressers, and to more broadly support the efforts of parents, consumer advocates, government agencies and legislators to improve the design safety of furniture used by and for children.”

To Download a copy of the complaint along with other case files, [click here](#) or go to:

<https://feldmanshepherd.com/press-kit-dudek-v-ikea/>

Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelernter Tanner Weinstock Dodig LLP has recovered some of the largest verdicts and settlements in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and several other states across the country. The firm represents plaintiffs in significant personal injury and complex civil litigation including medical malpractice, birth injury, motor vehicle accidents, defective products, and crashworthiness claims.