

Statement Card 1

In 2009, a federal Court of Appeals upheld a jury's verdict to award an inmate \$75,000 in compensatory damages and \$125,000 in punitive damages on his claim that a correctional officer attacked him without justification for the purpose of maliciously doing him harm. The court found that both compensatory and punitive damage awards were justified by the evidence.

Statement Card 2

In 2007, a juvenile formerly detained at the Texas Youth Commission, now known as the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD), reached a financial settlement with the agency for an undisclosed amount. The juvenile, who was serving a two year commitment, was beaten by four other juveniles while juvenile correctional officers (JCOs) assigned to his dorm were not at their station. The juvenile alleged the officers allowed the assault, which sent him to the emergency room, because they didn't like him. The officers were fired for neglect.

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Understanding Professional Liability
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