

TRIAL BEGINS IN STABBING DEATH OF WEST PALM TEEN

Attorneys from Ellis, Ged & Bodden seek justice in wrongful death case

Trial begins today in the wrongful death case of a West Palm Beach teen who paid the ultimate price for trying to help a friend. Joseph Duque was just 14 years old when he got caught up in an altercation during teen night at Rumbass night club in West Palm Beach on a summer night almost five years ago. He was brutally stabbed and died in a dimly lit parking, trying to defend a friend who was being attacked by a number of unidentified individuals from the club.

Lawyers from the South Florida-based law firm of Ellis, Ged & Bodden, P.A., will argue, on behalf of the Duque family, that the defendant, Rumbass, a nightclub located at 122 North Military Trail in West Palm Beach, failed to provide proper security for Duque, which ultimately led to his untimely death.

The brutal attack occurred on July 3, 2004. No arrests have been made in the case. The club that failed to provide adequate security for its young patrons remains in business. Joseph's family still grieves.

Attorneys Carlos A. Bodden and Patrick W. Lawlor are heading up the legal team from Ellis, Ged & Bodden. "We intend to prove that the club and its employees acted recklessly when they locked Joseph out, leaving them in a poorly lit parking lot to face what they must have known was a serious physical threat," Mr. Bodden said. "The club had a duty to its patrons to provide safety and protection not just entertainment."

Opening statements in the case will be heard by Judge Diana Lewis in Room 6M of the Palm Beach County Courthouse, located at 205 N. Dixie Highway in West Palm Beach, Florida, beginning the morning of June 1, 2009.

"The time has come to bring the responsible parties to justice in the case of this tragic and senseless act of violence," Mr. Lawlor said.

For more information, visit www.ellisandged.com or call (561) 995-1966.