

# Jury awards mother \$20 million in birth injury case against Advocate Christ Hospital

*By Andy Grimm, June 27, 2022*

The boy, now 7, has brain damage from oxygen deprivation during labor at Advocate Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn.



A Cook County Jury awarded \$20 million to the mother of a young boy who suffered severe brain damage because of lack of oxygen during delivery at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn in 2014. | Adobe Stock Photo

The mother of a boy that has severe brain damage after delivery at a south suburban hospital was awarded \$20 million by a Cook County jury.

Jurors deliberated for six hours Friday after a three-week trial at the Daley Center, finding staff at Advocate Christ Hospital missed signs that Bonita Johnson's child was in danger during Johnson's labor at the Oak Lawn medical center in 2014.

Because staff failed to act swiftly enough to prevent complications, the child, now 7, has permanent brain damage, according to a lawsuit. The boy will "require lifelong medical, personal and financial care. He will never be

able to support himself or live alone,” according to a statement from Johnson’s attorneys.

“We live with the ramifications of this every minute of every day,” Johnson said in a statement. “My son will never live a normal life, and that is heartbreaking for me because, as a mother, you want your child to have the best life possible.”

Jurors found in favor of Johnson in eight out of nine counts alleging negligence against hospital staff. It did not find the doctor who performed a Caesarian section on Johnson liable for the child’s injuries, according to a statement issued Monday by Johnson’s lawyers.