



TAMPA BAY BANKRUPTCY CENTER, P.A.

PHONE: (813) 200-4133

TOLL FREE: (800) 965-5074

February 23, 2011

NFL Star Filed for Bankruptcy

Former Chicago Bears star Dave Duerson, who committed suicide recently had filed for bankruptcy protection in September 2010. In his bankruptcy filing, Duerson listed a federal court judgment his food company won in 2004 as one of his assets. The judgment amounted to \$34.5 million and was given against a company that filed for bankruptcy in 2005. Ironically, the amount was never collected. Without the awarded amount, Duerson would have been in debt by up to \$14 million, largely due to the failure of his food former company, Duerson Foods LLC that went into receivership in 2006. Duerson told the Chicago Tribune in 2007 that he was still hopeful to collect the judgment.

In his bankruptcy filing, Duerson stated that his ex-wife is entitled to 30% to 50% of whatever judgment is collected.

Last December, Duerson's wife Alicia claimed that he owed her \$70,000 and had not listed some of his assets like his two Super Bowl rings and a

<http://tampabankruptcy.pro/blog/>

large bronze trophy for being named the Walter Payton Man of the Year in 1987. Duerson's lawyer, Zach Shelomith, explained the missing items from Duerson's list of assets when he said their ownership had been transferred some time ago to the Dave Duerson Foundation and that the mementos would be displayed in a sports Hall of Fame in Indiana or Illinois.

Shelomith said Duerson was negotiating with this ex-wife to settle their dispute.

Other assets listed by Duerson included \$846 in his checking account and a 2002 Cadillac Escalade that had been driven 140,000 miles worth \$5,750.

In 2007, after his food company was forced into receivership, Duerson's financial problems began to escalate. His Highland Park home, which he mortgaged to help finance his food company operations, was issued with a foreclosure notice.

Earlier in April 2004, Duerson sued a freezer supplier that he believed had caused a lot of difficulties for his company and himself. The Eastern Wisconsin district court awarded Duerson \$34 million in damages when it gave judgment to him.

In one October filing, Duerson said he was trying to end a \$379-a-month storage lease in Morton Grove where he kept a Chippendale desk he bought in 1998, a remote-control "high-rise bar", a dismantled 1987

<http://tampabankruptcy.pro/blog/>

Brunswick pool table, four black metal bar stools and two black directors' chairs. In his memo to the court, Duerson explained his difficulty in selling or giving away the items. What was in storage also included his sons' two trumpets from grade school.