



OFFICE LOCATION

Ankin Law Office
162 W Grand Ave
Chicago, IL 60654

Tel: 312-346-8780 or 800-442-6546

Fax: 312-346-8781

PRACTICE AREAS

Workers Compensation

Personal Injury

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Wrongful Death

Illinois Injured Worker Awarded Over \$30 Million

8/25/2010



A former employee of a popcorn plant was recently awarded the largest verdict of this type by a Chicago jury. The plaintiff, Gerardo Solis, had been a worker in a Chicago popcorn plant owned by Flavorchem Corp for 8 years from 1998-2006.

In 2006 he was diagnosed with Popcorn Lung (also known as Bronchiolitis obliterans). This life-threatening illness inflames the lung's small airways, called bronchioles, resulting in scarring that permanently obstructs the airways. The only known cure is a lung transplant.

Popcorn lung is caused by a chemical called diacetyl, which is used in the butter flavoring used in microwave popcorn. As explained in this Newsinferno [blog post](#), the link between diacetyl and Popcorn Lung was reported by the National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health in 2003.

In the [Illinois personal injury lawsuit](#), Solis sought recovery for his injuries which resulted in him being 100% disabled. He has just 25% of normal lung capacity and there is the strong possibility that he will need a lung transplant during the next decade.

Following trial he was awarded a verdict of \$30.4 million.