

# DAILY REPORT

ALM A SMART READ FOR SMART READERS

## Jury awards \$1.7 million to widow of murdered photographer

A Forsyth County jury has awarded \$1.75 million to the widow of an aerial photographer gunned down as he peddled photographs of homeowners' properties door-to-door.



**Brian Rogers**

The photographer was 64-year-old Terry Thrasher. According to lawyer Brian D. "Buck" Rogers, who represented Thrasher's widow, Judy, the photographer had "combined his two favorite hobbies, flying and photography."

For several years Thrasher had taken pictures of properties as he flew to commercial jobs, and would later sell bird's-eye views to willing buyers.

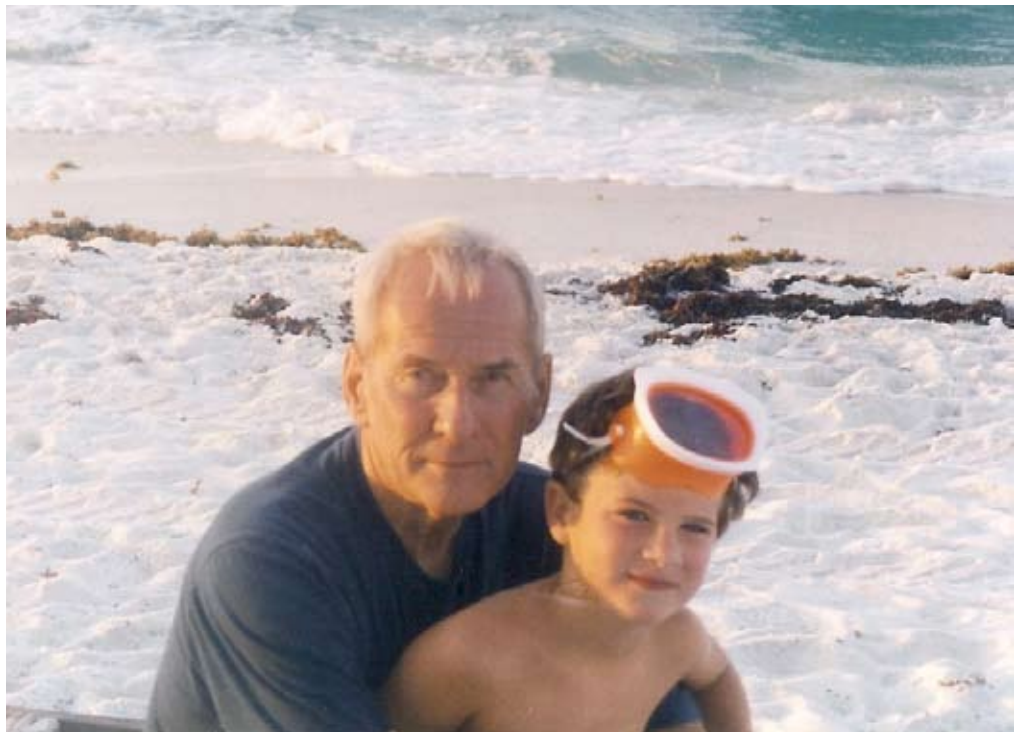
On Jan. 22, 2004, Thrasher appeared on the doorstep of Morris and Grace Chadwick, attempting to sell an aerial view of their property.

But Morris Cecil Chadwick, described in court filings as suffering from paranoid delusions, reacted to Thrasher's offer by pulling a pistol and delivering a single shot to the chest; Thrasher staggered a short distance and fell dead in a ditch.

Chadwick, then 68, was determined unfit to stand trial on criminal charges.

Rogers and fellow attorney Michael L. Goldberg used evidence that Chadwick, shortly after the killing, had signed over a power of attorney to his wife in order to transfer several parcels of property to family members as evidence that the man, while disturbed, was accountable for his actions.

"We're confident that his allegations



**Terry with his grandson Nicholas in Destin**

of incompetence were contrived to avoid prosecution," said Rogers, a partner at Rogers & Goldberg, LLC.



**Michael Goldberg**

widow \$1.75 million in compensatory and punitive damages. A separate fraudulent transfer case against

the Chadwicks is being pursued in order to recoup sufficient funds to pay the judgment, said Rogers.

"I feel confident we'll be able to recover," said Rogers. "The family has considerable land holdings."

Christopher Wade Willis of Dawsonville's Turner & Willis, who defended the case with Cumming sole practitioner Leslie Lanew Aiken, declined to comment upon the case, other than to say he was not involved in the suit concerning the land transfers. Aiken could not be reached. *Thrasher et al. v. Chadwick*, No. 04SC-0270 (Forsyth St. March 26, 2004).