

Woman sues store over loaf of bread

Says she bit into 'a nail or rivet'

BY KEITH FRASER, THE PROVINCE AUGUST 9, 2009

A Coquitlam woman says she suffered serious injuries when she bit into a fresh loaf of bread containing a metal screw or rivet that had been baked into the bread.

Shahedeh Bafandeh says she bought the loaf of crusty French bread on Aug. 10, 2007, at the Westwood Real Canadian Superstore on Lougheed.

"She bites into it and when she bites into it, she bites into a nail or a rivet," said her lawyer Manjot Hallen, who has filed a lawsuit on her behalf against the companies responsible. "It's kind of a screw of some sort. It's about the size of a penny so it's quite significant. It chips her teeth, causes her physical injuries in and around her mouth."

Bafandeh also suffered some mental injuries, including anxiety, has difficulty biting into bread and doesn't eat it any longer, he said.

Named as defendants in the lawsuit are George Weston and Ready Bake, producers of the bread, and Loblaws, owner and operator of the retailer of the bread, the Westwood Superstore.

According to a statement of claim filed in B.C. Supreme Court, Bafandeh's injuries have caused and continue to cause her pain, suffering, loss of enjoyment of life, permanent physical disability, loss of physical, mental and emotional health and loss of earnings, past and prospective.

"The plaintiff continues to undergo medical care and treatment and to incur loss and expense, particulars of which will be delivered at trial."

The goods sold were not reasonably fit for human consumption, it says.

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