

# Lawyer Who Told Client 'I'm Done' Faces \$300K Malpractice Ruling

"A lawyer will stay on the hook for a \$300,000 malpractice verdict after walking out on a client who was unhappy with the way settlement talks in a divorce were going," reports John O'Brien in *Legal Newsline's Attorneys & Judges*.

"The California Fifth Appellate District affirmed a Stanislaus County judgment against the Law Office of Leslie F. Jensen, who told her client 'I'm done' shortly before the divorce trial was to begin."

"Jensen wanted Krista Masellis to accept an \$800,000 offer, even though valuations placed Krista's share at \$1.5 million or more. Krista had urged Jensen to depose her soon-to-be-ex-husband because she thought he might be hiding assets, but Jensen never did."

"When Jensen told Masellis she wouldn't ask for more than \$800,000, even though Masellis wanted much more, Masellis told her she didn't have the client's best interest in mind."

***Read the article.***