The year 2007 brought a close to a more-than-15-year-long lawsuit between renowned art collector David Bellis and Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Company. The situation started when Bellis discovered that 10 of his rare Tiffany stained-glass windows and lampshades had become damaged while they were on display in Japan. Hairline cracks and other structural problems marred the unique items, which were no longer being manufactured. However, Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Company claimed that the damage did not occur during the time its policy was in effect.

More than six entities became parties to the ensuing lawsuit, including the broadcasting company that had sponsored the show in which the Tiffany pieces had been displayed, as well as the show's American curator. After more than a decade, the case went before federal court in New York City. A jury ruled in favor of Bellis on liability. Based on the Judge's recommendation, the case then settled with Bellis receiving $ 7 million.

*About the Author:*

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Raymond Bragar has been an attorney in New York City since 1982. Currently President of Bragar Eagel & Squire, P.C., Bragar defended David Bellis in his suit and earned coverage in Stained Glass News.