

Illinois - Assets Exposed in the Event of a Judgment

Real Property*	Auto(s)	Liquid Assets	Future Wages	Personal Property
Primary residence if value exceeds \$15,000; \$30,000 if owned by 2 or more individuals.	Personal auto at risk if interest in the vehicle is greater than \$2,400.	Cash on hand as well as cash held in a financial institution such as checking accounts, savings accounts, money market funds, and certificate of deposit are at risk of levy or lien and seizure. Investments in stocks, bonds, and mutual funds are also at risk of levy or lien and seizure. (Note: Determination as to the possible levy or garnishment of public assistance funds, disability insurance funds, funds issued from a charity, spousal support, unemployment, child support, veteran's benefits, life insurance proceeds, qualified retirement accounts or pension plans under Section 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408 or 408A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 may be restricted by State or Federal Law.)	The lesser of 15% of weekly earnings for a week or the amount by which disposable earnings for the week exceed 45 times the federal minimum hourly wage are subject to garnishment.	All personal property (excluding necessary wearing apparel, bible, school books, and family pictures) with a cumulative interest in excess of \$4,000 is at risk. Personal property may include jewelry, household goods, appliances and tools not used in a trade.

National Overall Trends 1999-2005**		
Year of Award	Average Vehicle Liability Award	Average Premises Liability Award
1999	\$201,205	\$588,934
2000	\$204,406	\$542,462
2001	\$244,863	\$635,713
2002	\$223,071	\$638,081
2003	\$236,674	\$1,112,977
2004	\$300,164	\$680,543
2005	\$406,576	\$541,117

Percentage of \$1,000,000 awards vs. total number of awards 1999-2005 by region**

<i>Midwest:</i> Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska			
Region	1999-2001	2002-2003	2004-2005
<i>Midwest</i>	10%	12%	16%

*Amount listed is the homestead amount.

** Source: Current Awards Trends in Personal Injury – 46th Edition. Copyright 2007 by LRP Publications, P.O. Box 24668, West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4668. All rights reserved. For more information on this or other products published by LRP Publications, please call 1-800-341-7874 or visit our website at www.shoplrp.com/highered.

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