



## The Voice

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### And The Defense Wins

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DRI member [Charles A. Deluca](#) of **Ryan Ryan Deluca LLP** in Stamford, Connecticut, successfully defended a prominent Russian businessman in a lawsuit brought by his former wife claiming damages for intentional infliction of emotional distress and assault.

The plaintiff claimed that the defendant assaulted her and inflicted emotional distress on ten separate occasions spanning an 11-year timeframe. The assaults allegedly occurred in Russia, France, and the U.S. The case was premised upon a recent Connecticut Supreme Court case which allowed for the continuing course of conduct doctrine to apply in cases of intentional infliction of emotional distress so long as the most recent incident occurred within the three-year statute of limitations. In this case, the plaintiff alleged assaults in France and Greenwich, all occurring within the three years prior to bringing the lawsuit. The other seven alleged assaults stretched back to 2001 and occurred in Moscow and Miami. The case presented questions of Russian, French, and American law and also illustrated the difficulty of obtaining discovery in Russia.

After a four week trial, the jury found that the defendant did not assault the plaintiff nor inflict emotional distress and found unanimously in the defendant's favor.

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