

OPINION SUMMARY

**MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT
DIVISION I**

AIMEE K. WILLIAMS,) No. ED91286
Respondent/Cross-Appellant,)
)
vs.) Appeal from the Circuit Court
) of St. Louis County
)
TRANS STATES AIRLINES, INC.)
Appellant/Cross-Respondent.) File: March 24, 2009

OPINION SUMMARY

Trans States Airlines, Inc. (TSAI) appeals from the trial court’s judgment on the jury's verdicts in favor of Aimee Williams (Williams) for both actual and punitive damages in Williams’s retaliatory discharge suit against TSAI. Conversely, Williams cross-appeals from the trial court’s judgment of attorneys’ fees and costs.

AFFIRMED IN PART, REVERSED AND REMANDED IN PART.

Division One Holds: The trial court did not err in submitting Williams’s case or her punitive damages claim to the jury, nor did it abuse its discretion in admitting and excluding a variety of evidence and in awarding costs. The trial court, however, did abuse its discretion in awarding attorneys’ fees. With regard to TSAI’s appeal, the judgment of the trial court is affirmed. With regard to Williams’s cross-appeal, the judgment of the trial court is affirmed with regard to its award of costs. The judgment of the trial court is reversed with regard to its award of attorneys’ fees, and is remanded for entry of its judgment and award of attorneys’ fees in accordance with this opinion.

Opinion by: Kurt S. Odenwald, P.J. Glenn A. Norton, J. and Patricia L. Cohen, J., Concur.

Attorney for Respondent/Cross-Appellant: Jonathan C. Berns and Michelle D. Neumann

Attorneys for Appellant/Cross-Respondent: Robert W. Stewart, Christopher M. Sanders, and
Captain David J.A. Hayes, III

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