LAWYERS WEEKLY

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Verdicts & Settlements

Parties dispute use of sales commission act

Agribusiness said no deal was made for future commissions

Judgment for defendants

Plaintiff John E. Gibbons had sold urea to Michigan farmers for defendants Agricultural Consultants LLC and W.S. Ag Center Inc.

Gibbons claimed more than \$1 million in damages stemming from violations of the Michigan Sales Representatives' Commission Act, claiming that the parties had entered into an oral agreement entitling him to future sales commissions on new orders for the life of the customer under the SRCA.

Defendants disputed that any such agreement existed. Several witnesses testified for the defense that the concept of com-



HOWARD

missions for life was unheard of in the agricultural industry.

Judge Christopher P. Yates ruled in favor of defendants.



TREECE

William D. Howard and Jean M. Treece, counsel for defendants, provided case information.

Type of action: Michigan Sales Commission Act

Type of injuries: Unpaid commissions

Name of case: Gibbons vs. Agricultural Consultants LLC

Court/Case no./Date: Kent County Circuit Court; 12-09224-CKB; Jan. 6, 2015

Tried before: Judge

Name of judge: Christopher P. Yates

Demand: An amount greater than \$1 million

Judgment: For defendants

Attorney for plaintiff: Frederick J. Boncher

Attorneys for defendant: William D. Howard, Jean M. Treece