

NEELY SETTLES LAWSUIT ; GETS \$12,500 FROM TWA

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FROM STAFF REPORTS Chief Justice **Richard Neely** of the West Virginia Supreme Court has settled the suit he brought against Trans World Airlines over a baggage dispute for \$12,500.

Neely said the airline offered more money if he would agree to keep the amount secret. He declined, he said, because "money was never the object." The incident leading to the suit occurred on a hot July day in 1989. Neely had flown from Seattle, Wash., to New York to appear on a television program, "2020." He was one of about 150 passengers who waited an unusually long time for their luggage.

Eventually, he and an elderly woman went to the TWA baggage office and were rebuffed by an employee.

"We entered a restricted area, apparently, because there was no one in the office to tell us not to. She was very rude.

"She told the woman she had no business being there and she said she didn't want to hear our explanation.

"She put her hands both on the woman and on me. I thought she was obnoxious. She left us standing and went back to what I believe was a personal telephone call." Neely said he left the office and used a red phone to call TWA. An employee said that no executive would come to the baggage area, as Neely had requested, but did say that a problem with the cargo door was causing the delay.