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VIDEO SHOWS BOY FALLING THROUGH GRATE, <u>FAMILY FILES SUIT FOR SEVERE INJURIES</u>

The family of a five-year-old boy injured when he fell through a grate, has filed suit in Chicago, Illinois today. On March 26, 2019, the young boy was playing catch with his grandfather on the sidewalk of 433 West Briar Place in Chicago. Security camera footage shows the football bouncing onto a metal grate next to the building. As the young boy retrieves the ball, the grate collapses and he falls headfirst into the pit below. Impaled by a piece of metal as he fell, he suffered severe, life-threatening injuries. His grandfather immediately jumped into the pit to help his grandson.

Today, **G. Grant Dixon III** of the **Dixon Law Office** filed suit on behalf of the family. "The support for this grate rusted away," Grant said. The boy suffered severe abdominal injuries and several surgeries at Northwestern Hospital to save his life. The suit names the condominium association and the management company.

"The evidence will show the association knew or should have known about this problem for years and simply neglected it." Grant continued, "this family nearly lost their son because a condo association and management company did not perform simple routine maintenance." The family hopes this incident will cause other condominium and apartment buildings to examine their grates and make sure they are safe. "These grates are all over Chicago. This family hopes that this case will help others by making people in charge of buildings look at the safety of these grates." Grant said.

The suit, filed in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, seeks in excess of \$50,000 in damages.