



WAL*MARTWATCH

1730 M Street NW, Suite 601
Washington DC 20036
202 557 7440 Phone
202 557 7499 Fax
info@walmartwatch.com

Walton Family Foundation
Attn: Mr. Buddy D. Philpot, Executive Director
P.O. Box 2030
Bentonville, AR 72712

December 5, 2007

Dear Mr. Philpot:

With the recent nationwide news coverage, you have likely heard about the tragic story of former Wal-Mart employee Deborah Shank of Jackson, Missouri.

Mrs. Shank was a devoted Wal-Mart employee when she was left permanently brain damaged after a tragic collision with a semi-trailer truck seven years ago. Her Wal-Mart health plan promptly paid her initial medical bills, and the Shanks subsequently won a modest settlement from the trucking company. After lawyers' fees and expenses were deducted, the remaining \$417,000 was placed in a special trust fund to pay for Mrs. Shank's future medical expenses – around-the-clock care for the remainder of her life.

Wal-Mart, within its legal rights of subrogation under the health care contract, successfully sued the Shank family for reimbursement of \$470,000 in medical expenses, plus the company's legal fees and expenses. Wal-Mart will drain all of the funds from Mrs. Shank's trust, leaving no money for her future medical care. In addition, the amount of Wal-Mart's lawsuit exceeds the trust amount, which will plunge the Shank family further into debt.

Deborah Shank and her family have suffered tremendous losses, starting with the terrible accident seven years ago. Last year, they also lost a son in Iraq and recently, Jim Shank divorced Deborah to allow her to qualify for more medical assistance under Medicaid and Social Security. To make matters worse, Jim Shank himself was also diagnosed with cancer and is currently in remission.

Wal-Mart Watch launched a fundraiser last week for the Shank Family and pledged to match all donated funds. Next week, we will present the Shank family with a check for \$10,000. While \$10,000 will provide only a small fraction of the amount of money the Shank family will need to support Deborah's full-time medical care for decades, it can at least help ease the immediate burden on the Shank family.

We implore you to match our donation of \$10,000 or more from your fund to assist this former Wal-Mart employee and her family at this devastating time. If ever a Wal-Mart employee needed a little help, it is Deborah Shank.

We appreciate your serious consideration of this request and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

David Nassar
Wal-Mart Watch

Cc: Mr. Brad Fisher, Director, Wal-Mart Foundation
Ms. Theresa Graham, Wal-Mart Associates in Critical Need Foundation

Enclosures