



## Eye Doctor To Pay \$900,000 in Suit Over Blindness After Sty Removal

**L** *v. Kern*: An ophthalmologist reached a \$900,000 settlement on July 24 with a patient who became blind in an eye during a sty removal operation.

To perform the procedure in April 2004, Dr. Arthur Kern, of Millburn, injected anesthetic into the left eyelid of a patient, now 22, of Westfield. When it was over,

\_\_\_\_\_ discovered he was blind in that eye, according to a suit filed in Essex County by **David Mazie** of Roseland's **Nagel Rice & Mazie**.

The anesthetic went into a blood vessel in the eyelid and traveled to the eyeball, where it did the damage that caused the blindness, the suit said.

Defense counsel **Louis Ruprecht** of Millburn's **Ruprecht, Hart & Weeks** did not return calls last week. Mazie says a defense expert report said the doctor followed correct procedures and that the patient was a victim of a freak accident that could not be explained.

— By Henry Gottlieb