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For immediate release

**HART OF BROWN DEAN REPRESENTS UNDERWRITERS, WALMART
IN \$3.9 MILLION SETTLEMENT WITH WALMART'S CONTRACTOR**

A contractor working in a Sam's Wholesale Club in Texas City, TX has agreed to pay \$3.9 million to Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and its insurance underwriters Lloyds of London and Continental Insurance Company, a member of the CNA group in Chicago, according to John Hart, attorney for Wal-Mart's property insurers and partner in the Fort Worth, TX-based firm of Brown, Dean, Wiseman, Liser, Proctor & Hart, L.L.P.

The case involved a fire that occurred at the Texas City sales facility in early 2002. In settlement negotiations, it was shown that the fire was caused by employees of Pieper Electric working on the roof with a propane torch. The accidental fire spread throughout the building, resulting in inventory, fixture and equipment damages totaling more than \$4 million, Hart said.

The dispute was settled before the statute of limitations expired and without being put into suit.

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