# Milanka Brooks sues gym chain over mother's heatstroke death



Milanka Brooks, a television comedy actress known for her roles in popular series such as 'Benidorm', 'The Windsors', and 'My Family', is currently engaged in legal action against SportsDirect.Com Fitness Ltd, the owner of the Everlast gym chain. This lawsuit follows the tragic death of her mother, Mileva Brooks, who passed away from heatstroke after a sauna incident at the Everlast gym located in Cheltenham, England.

The incident occurred on August 26, 2022, when the 75-year-old former model, who had been a member of the gym for six months, collapsed in the sauna. Members of the gym alerted staff when they noticed she was unresponsive and experiencing breathing difficulties. Following her collapse, she was rushed to the hospital but succumbed to her condition three days later. A coroner's inquest held in September 2023 confirmed the cause of death as heatstroke, with the assistant coroner for Gloucestershire, Roland Wooderson, noting that Mileva's body temperature was measured at 39.2 degrees centigrade when paramedics arrived.

Milanka Brooks is suing the gym chain for damages that she estimates could exceed £50,000 but are capped at £100,000. The legal action is filed at London's High Court, where she is proceeding as the administratrix of her mother's estate under the Fatal Accidents Act of 1976. In her legal claims, she is seeking compensation for "personal injury and consequential losses" associated with her mother's death.

In her online posts, Milanka has expressed the depth of her relationship with her mother, referring to her as "the light and inspiration of my life," her "partner in crime," and her "best friend in the world." This personal tragedy has evidently had a profound impact on her, and she is now pursuing a case against a company that operates nearly 60 branches of Everlast gyms across the UK, following their acquisition of several locations from DW Sports Fitness in 2020.

As the legal proceedings unfold, the spotlight remains on her case against SportsDirect.Com Fitness Ltd, prompting discussions around health and safety in gym facilities, particularly where amenities such as saunas are concerned. The outcome of this lawsuit could have implications for the responsibilities of gym operators in ensuring the safety of their members while using such facilities.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)