



SUMMER VERDICTS AND SETTLEMENTS

\$3,500,000 Settlement

The Honorable Thomas S. Shadrick mediated this traumatic brain injury case involving a collision between a tractor-trailer and pick-up truck. The plaintiff was a 23-year-old passenger in the truck being operated on a two-lane road in Suffolk, Virginia. The truck was passing a stopped vehicle travelling in the opposite direction when the driver of the tractor-trailer, travelling in the same lane as the stopped vehicle, struck the vehicle occupied by the plaintiff after unsuccessfully attempting an evasive maneuver.

At the time of the collision, the driver of the tractor-trailer was on his cell phone and failed to notice the traffic ahead of him. Travelling at approximately 60 mph,

THE DRIVER OF THE TRACTOR-TRAILER WAS ON HIS CELL PHONE AND FAILED TO NOTICE THE TRAFFIC AHEAD OF HIM

the tractor-trailer sideswiped the stopped vehicle while attempting to swerve around it to avoid the impending collision, causing his tractor-trailer to jackknife and skid into the opposite lane where it impacted the vehicle occupied by the plaintiff.

The driver of the truck was killed and the plaintiff passenger was flown to Norfolk Sentara Hospital with severe multiple injuries including a traumatic brain injury. In his lawsuit, the plaintiff claimed \$454,936 in medical bills and \$624,605 in loss of earning capacity. Though defense counsel disputed the necessity of some of the plaintiff's future treatment, the case settled for \$3,500,000 on May 16, 2014, after a day of mediation. [14-T-108].

\$2,300,000 Settlement

This wrongful death case involved a collision between a motor vehicle

operated by the decedent, a 51-year old appliance repair technician, and a tractor-trailer. The tractor-trailer struck the decedent's vehicle as the driver of the tractor-trailer was attempting to pass the vehicle on a two-lane highway while the vehicle was in the process of making a left turn.

The defense contested liability, arguing that based on the testimony of an eye-witness, the decedent failed to give a visible turn signal as required by Virginia law. The impact occurred in a no-passing zone even

though the pass was initiated in a passing zone. The case was settled for \$2,300,000. [14-T-101]

\$920,000 Verdict

The Honorable John M. Tran presided over this personal injury jury trial in Fairfax Circuit Court involving a collision on I-66 between an automobile operated by the plaintiff and a fully loaded tractor-trailer. Plaintiff was stopped in traffic when she was rear-ended by the tractor-trailer and sustained various injuries as a result of the collision including a mild traumatic

brain injury, torn mesentery, tinnitus, lumbar and thoracic spine injuries. The plaintiff also claimed to suffer from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of the accident and incurred approximately \$100,000 in total medical expenses.

The driver of the tractor-trailer denied liability, testifying that the plaintiff had moved suddenly into his lane. After a jury trial where eyewitnesses testified that traffic had been stopped for several minutes, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff in the amount of \$920,000. [14-T-067]



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