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California Superior Court

Lentz vs. Confidential

TOPIC:

Synopsis: SETTLEMENT -- Husband, wife, and brother-in-law suffer multiple injuries in rear-ender
Case Type: Vehicle Negligence; Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle; Vehicle Negligence; Rear-End; Vehicle Negligence;
Interstate/Freeway; Vehicle Negligence; Parked/Stalled/Stopped Vehicle; Vehicle Negligence; Rollover; Negligent
Hiring & Supervision; Negligent Hiring; Negligent Hiring & Supervision; Negligent Entrustment; Negligent Infliction of
Emotional Distress

DOCKET NUMBER: Confidential

STATE: California

COUNTY: Confidential

Verdict/Judgment Date: December 18, 2007

JUDGE: Not Applicable

ATTORNEYS:

Plaintiff: [Darren O. Aitken](#), Aitken, Aitken & Cohn, Santa Ana.

Defendant: [Barbara S. Harper](#), Yoka & Smith, Los Angeles; [Stephen H. Smith](#), Yoka & Smith, Los Angeles.

SUMMARY:

Verdict/Judgment: Settlement

Verdict/Judgment Amount: \$1,000,000

Range: \$1,000,000-1,999,999

\$965,000 to plaintiffs John and Lucy Lentz; \$35,000 to plaintiff Dyer. The mediator was Judge Thrasher with JAMS.

EXPERTS:

Plaintiff: Not reported.

Defendant: Not reported.

TEXT: CASE INFORMATION FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to Plaintiff: On August 6, 2006, plaintiffs John Lentz, a 68-year-old stockbroker for Morgan Stanley, his wife Lucy, a 66-year-old homemaker, and brother-in-law Doug Dyer, a 67-year-old retired school teacher, were in plaintiff John Lentz's Mercedes-Benz CLK 320, traveling westbound on I-15, in an unincorporated area of Riverside County, California, around 12:30 p.m., when traffic suddenly slowed in front of them. Plaintiff John Lentz, who was driving, noticed a large pickup **truck** bearing down on him very fast. The pickup **truck** struck the Mercedes from behind, causing it to overturn and slide a great distance.

CLAIMED INJURIES According to Plaintiff: Plaintiff John Lentz: wound to left forearm, resulting in scars and discomfort; deep wound to the left wrist, resulting in surgeries for cleaning out wound, inserting wound vacuum, a temporary skin graft, and a permanent skin graft; scars and "tattooing" on the right side of the head, affecting physical appearance; scars above the right eyebrow; severed nerve above the right eye, resulting in loss of sensation on the right side of the scalp; bruising and damage to the left ankle, resulting in instability; and area of left thigh where skin was taken for the skin graft on the wrist. Plaintiff Lucy Lentz: bruising to abdomen, back, and sternum; loss of consortium. Plaintiff Lucy Lentz also alleged negligent infliction of emotional distress (Dillon v. Legg). Plaintiff Dyer: bruised rib cage from the seat belt and straps; lacerations on hands and legs from broken glass; mental stress when driving.

CLAIMED DAMAGES According to Plaintiff: Plaintiff John Lentz: \$131,936 medical. Plaintiff Lucy Lentz: \$1,885 medical. Plaintiff Dyer: \$184 medical.

SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS According to Plaintiff: Not reported.

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