

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

Farm Tractor Driver Gets \$347,500 After Rear-End Collision

Negligence/Auto

Farm Tractor Rear-Ended — Fractures, Cognitive Disorder — Contrib Issue — \$347,500 Settlement

Brief statement of claim: Plaintiff, age 66, was driving his farm tractor down the paved shoulder of a five-lane highway. The defendant, age 74, was driving his tractor-trailer in the far right lane and struck the plaintiff's tractor from the rear, breaking the tractor in half and throwing the plaintiff into a ditch.

Principal injuries (in order of severity): Bilateral lumbar transverse process fractures; T-9 compression fracture; comminuted radial fracture; chip fracture in

right wrist; three rib fractures; 12 percent impairment rating to the left wrist; 17 percent impairment rating to the left shoulder; diagnosed neurocognitive disorder

Special damages: Medical bills of \$42,500, all paid by Medicare, with resulting lien of \$14,700

Tried or settled: Settled following mediated settlement conference

County where tried or settled: Currituck

Case name and number: *Names withheld*

Date concluded: March 7, 2002

Name of judge: n/a

Amount: \$347,500

Insurance carrier: Northland Insurance Company

Expert witnesses and areas of expertise: None

Attorney for plaintiff: Danny Glover Jr. of D. Keith Teague, P.A., Elizabeth City

Other useful info: The plaintiff made a good recovery. His neuropsychologist did not recommend any treatment or counseling a neurocognitive disorder. The defendant pled contributory negligence, claiming that the plaintiff swerved into the tractor-trailer.