

ILLINOIS

**JURY VERDICT REPORTER**1-A TO 1-L AUTO COLLISIONS (Total 93 cases, \$79,243,804; average \$852,084)

- \$15,600,000 (SXX j/1) 01C-9205 (USDC IL NE) Attys Stephen M. Libman; Michael T. Trucco. September 1, 2001 pltf's parents had pulled off to the shoulder to fix a flat tire in a construction zone on I-65 in Indiana, when a truck driver exited the zone exceeding the speed limit. The truck driver was transporting two lifts weighing more than 44,000 pounds each in a flatbed trailer when one rolled across the highway and severed pltf's father's leg below the knee before rolling into the car and immediately igniting a fire. Pltf M-6 was strapped into a car seat and could not be rescued (pltf's mother was helping to change the tire and was unharmed). Paid \$4,000,000 by Genie Industries; \$4,000,000 by Market Transport Ltd.; and \$7,600,000 by System Transport Inc.
- \$5,750,000 (SXX j/2) 01L-7194 Atty Francis Patrick Murphy. May 28, 2001 on the way to back up a call a deputy sheriff ran a red light at Central Ave. and Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, at 70 mph (without sirens or flashing lights) and broadsided the vehicle in which F-44 was a passenger. Pltf was ejected and died at the 2:30 a.m. accident scene. Pltf was a wife of 25 years and mother of 4 children aged 11, 14, 17 and 19 and worked as a janitor in a Catholic grade school for tuition credit. Paid by self-insured Cook County. Prior reported settlement of this case involving pltf's driver at SUU b/5.
- \$1,500,000 (SXX j/3) CV04-18784 (AZ Maricopa SupCt (I)) Attys Philip H. Corboy, Jr.; Robert B. Carey. March 5, 2004 truck driver for Contractors Engineers Supply Inc. made an improper lane change on Interstate 10 in Casa Grande, Arizona, and ran pltf off the roadway causing her instant death. F-18 was a college student and is survived by her parents and a half brother. Paid by Allied Insurance.
- \$1,400,000 (SXX j/4) 05L-111 (IL, McHenry 19th Jud Cir) Atty David G. Pribyl. March 10, 2005 deft's truck driver crossed the center line on Illinois Route 173 and struck pltf's vehicle head-on. M-62 is survived by his wife of two years and two adult children. Paid by self-insured confidential national trucking company.
- \$815,000 (SXX j/5) 04C-1608 (USDC IL NE) Attys Paul M. McMahon and Richard F. Egan. September 12, 2001 deft's driver failed to stop his straight-line truck at the red light northbound on Western Ave. at Lake St. and collided with eastbound pltf M-39 driving a semi-tractor trailer (herniated C5-C6 which required anterior cervical discectomy and fusion, and left shoulder impingement which required subacromial decompression surgery \$86,089 medl., \$72,573 LT). Paid by Hanover Insurance on behalf of Courtesy Delivery Inc.
- \$578,000 (SXX j/6) 02L-6047 Atty Mark E. McNabola. May 14, 2000 driver for Direct Towing Company pulled from the shoulder and into the northbound lanes of I-94 and struck the vehicle in which F-20 was a passenger (blood clot and hemorrhage to the head which required surgery \$96,225 medl., \$7200 LT as a hair stylist). Pltf's husband had a loss of consortium claim. Undisclosed split paid by Commercial General Union on behalf of Direct Towing Company; American Economy for pltf's driver George Spyropoulos. Reportedly, the claims of three other passengers (who were represented by other counsel) settled for an additional \$1,422,000.
- \$500,000 (SXX j/7) 02L-6174 Atty Daniel M. Kotin. February 13, 2002 deft bus rear-ended pltf's vehicle stopped for the red light at the intersection of Pulaski Ave. and the Stevenson I-55 overpass. M-53 suffered cervical bulge at C6-C7 which required discectomy and fusion, a lumbar laminectomy and fusion at L3-S1, and soft tissue injuries to the head, neck/back, hip and knee (\$184,933 medl. expense). Paid by self-insured Chicago Transit Authority.
- \$315,000 (SXX j/8) 03L-19 (IL, Will 12th Jud Cir) Atty Laird M. Ozmon. May 9, 2001 deft failed to stop for the stop sign eastbound on Division St. at Elizabeth St., Crete, and collided with northbound pltf F-40. The force of the impact caused pltf's vehicle to spin and come to rest facing south (shoulder and neck/back injuries which required anterior cervical discectomy and fusion at C5-C6 & C6-C7 - \$65,823 medl., \$4817 LT as an accountant). Paid by Pekin Insurance.

- \$180,000 (SXX j/9) 05L-231 (IL, Lake 19th Jud Cir) Atty Jason S. Marks. June 25, 2004 deft rear-ended pltf's vehicle northbound on Route 59 in Lake Villa (aggravation of degenerative disc disease at C5-C6 & C6-C7 which required a right anterior cervical discectomy and fusion - \$100,000 medl. expense). Paid by Rural Insurance.
- \$130,000 (SXX j/10) 05L-221 Atty Douglas Rallo. November 4, 2003 deft rear-ended pltf's vehicle westbound on Butterfield Road just past Fairfield Road, Lombard, when the vehicle in front of pltf was cut off by a phantom lane changer. The lead car made a sudden stop as did pltf when this accident occurred (L3-L4 bulge which required microdiscectomy - \$32,035 medl., \$18,343 LT). Paid by Metlife Auto & Home.
- \$95,000 (SXX j/11) 03L-10995 Atty Daniel E. O'Brien. September 15, 2002 willful and wanton police pursuit caused perpetrator to collide T-bone style with pltf M-74 at the intersection of Lexington and 17th Street (fractured right ankle which required repair \$33,000). Paid \$40,000 by Coregis on behalf of The Village of Maywood; \$45,000 by St. Paul on behalf of The Village of Broadview.

1-M MOTORCYCLES (Total 15 cases, \$11,725,000; average \$781,677)

- \$2,550,000 (SXX j/12) 01L-15004 Atty James P. Costello. November 14, 2001 deft's driver made a left turn onto Milwaukee Ave. and struck M-29 motorcyclist traveling southbound on DesPlaines Ave. (temporoparietal skull fracture, right subdural hematoma which required craniotomy with evacuation, temporal lobectomy, VP shunt and fractures to the right clavicle and two right ribs - \$140,842 medl., \$89,000 LT advertising sales). Paid by self-insured Commonwealth Edison.
- \$600,000 (SXX j/13) 05C-50049 (USDC IL NW) Atty Kevin P. Justen. August 2004 pltf was a passenger on a speeding uninsured motorcycle in Rockford, when an underinsured motorist made a left turn in front of the bike. F-23 sustained multiple injuries including leg and pelvis fractures which required repair surgery (\$125,000 medl. expense). Paid \$100,000 by AAA on behalf of the underinsured driver of the car and \$500,000 by USAA uninsured/underinsured coverage.
- \$250,000 (SXX j/14) No Suit Filed. Atty Timothy M. Whiting. May 15, 2005 deft ran a red light at Division and Western Ave. and struck pltf's motorcycle. M-36 suffered fractured ribs, right arm, leg, hip and clavicle - surgeries required. Policy limit paid by Geico.
- \$100,000 (SXX j/15) No Suit Filed. Atty Peter F. Higgins. August 26, 2005 deft made a left turn in front of pltf's motorcycle at the intersection of Michigan Ave. and Oak Street, causing pltf F-23 to catapult forward (right hand and elbow fractures \$37, 829 medl. expense). Paid by American Family.

1-O BICYCLES (Total 7 cases, \$11,250,000; average \$1,607,143)

- \$350,000 (SXX j/16) 04L-11912 Atty Christ S. Stacey. July 14, 2004 driver for deft valet company opened the door of Corboy & Demetrio's company car into the path of pltf's oncoming bicycle. M-49 sustained a fractured left elbow which required surgery and a broken right wrist which was casted (\$42,190 medl., \$26,481 - \$56,525 estimated LT as self-employed carpenter and performance artist). Paid by CHUBB on behalf of Valet Chicago Parking Corporation.

3-A TO 3-B PEDESTRIANS (Total 25 cases, \$27,827,000; average \$1,113,080)

- \$3,000,000 (SXX j/17) 03L-14428 Atty Jonathan Alan Rosenfeld. November 13, 2003 City of Chicago garbage truck turned right from Central Park onto North Ave. and struck M-37, a blind pedestrian using a cane, in the crosswalk. Pltf suffered bilateral leg degloving injuries and femur fractures which required multiple repair surgeries and an extended hospital stay (\$500,000 approximate medl. expense). Pltf's atty noted that pltf was schizophrenic and mentally impaired prior to this accident and had also been in an accident 10 years prior where he sustained bilateral femur fractures with traumatic brain injury. City of Chicago is self-insured.
- \$2,000,000 (SXX j/18) 01L-12738 Atty Larry R. Rogers, Jr.. October 12, 2001 uniformed City of Chicago police officer James Hickey pursued M-24 by vehicle and another officer pursued pltf on foot into a vacant lot where Officer Hickey ran pltf over near a brick wall adjacent to the vacant lot (survived by a minor daughter). Paid by self-insured City of Chicago.