



Jury Returns Verdict for \$12.6 Million

Plaintiffs in lawsuit represented by Levin Papantonio Thomas Mitchell Rafferty & Proctor Law Firm

Date | May 23, 2014

(Pensacola, FL) After 6 1/2 hours of deliberations, an Escambia County jury awarded Jerry Michael Hendrix and his wife Verna \$12.6 million dollars. The case arose out of an automobile accident that occurred in Pensacola, FL on February 23, 2011. On that day, Jerry Hendrix was severely injured when an industrial truck owned by Burford's Tree Surgeons, an Alabama based company, turned in front of his vehicle while he was traveling to work. The truck violated Mr. Hendrix's right-of-way and caused a head-on collision. However, the defense attorneys alleged that Mr. Hendrix was not wearing a seatbelt and that his injuries were primarily caused by his own negligence in failing to wear a seatbelt. The jury rejected that argument. The jury found that the Defendant was 85% at fault for Plaintiff's injuries. The case was tried by attorneys Troy Rafferty, Fred Levin and Aaron Watson of the Levin Papantonio, Thomas, Mitchell, Rafferty & Proctor law firm in Pensacola, FL. The Defendants were represented by attorneys Millard Fretland of Pensacola, FL, and Jeff Luther of Mobile, Alabama. Circuit Judge Ed Nickinson presided.

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