

Personal Injury | Wrongful Death | Auto Accidents | Product Liability | Premises Liability

#### RECENT NOTEWORTHY CASES

## Major Airline Ignores Safety: Seriously Injures Passenger & Forces Litigation

On July 21, 2016, Linda Fanelli was a passenger on American Airlines Flight #1822, scheduled to fly from West Palm Beach to Philadelphia.



Prior to her flight, American Airlines knew that there was a fluid leak, but failed to take proper precautions to discover the cause of the leak. Instead, American Airlines boarded the



plane where people began to smell fumes and yet the pilot continued on. It was not until the plane suffered a hydraulic failure on the runway that the pilot decided that something was wrong.

At that time, the smell condition was strong enough that the pilot behind American Airlines Flight #1822 could smell the fumes and even see the fluid leaking off the wing of the plane. Unfortunately, the AA pilot failed to use reasonable care and even incited further problems by announcing "evacuate, evacuate, evacuate."

The result was a panicked evacuation of the plane, including over the wing covered in hydraulic fluid. Ms. Fanelli fell due to the slippery wing – which she knew nothing about – and suffered severe injuries and required multiple surgeries. American Airlines should have never placed Ms. Fanelli in a position to be on the wing.

Ms. Fanelli retained Attorneys Jason Guari and Scott Perry of Murray & Guari Trial Attorneys PL to represent her for

Continued on page 3

### **More Results Inside**

- Policy Limits Settlement for Severely Injured Client Involved in Significant Highway Crash
- \$651,000 Settlement Man Falls at Restaurant
- Firm Settles Chain Reaction Rear-end Collision Case



### Policy Limits Settlement: (Uninsured Motorist Coverage and Bodily Injury Coverage) for Severely Injured Client Involved in Significant Highway Crash

Our client was a restrained front seat passenger on an interstate highway in Western New York when the driver of her vehicle violently rear-ended a vehicle in front of them.



As a result of this crash, our client sustained multiple, significant

injuries; spent fourteen (14) days in the hospital; and underwent two open reduction, internal fixation surgeries of her left ankle and left tibial plateau. The orthopedic doctors diagnosed the following injuries:

- Bicondylar left tibial plateau fracture, (ORIF)
- Comminuted widely displaced right proximal humeral shaft fracture
- Avulsion fracture of the left distal fibula with lateral ligament instability, (ORIF)
- Oblique fracture of the left fifth metacarpal shaft
- Multiple contusions, swelling and tenderness

Due to the severity of her injuries, she was not allowed to travel by airplane and was forced to take a medical ambulance to transport her home to Florida. The agonizing trip took nearly 24 hours. For many weeks, she was not able to begin rehabilitation due to three, non-weight bearing extremities. Her living room was transformed into a mini-hospital room with a hospital bed, wheelchair, assistive devices, and home health aide as she could not walk unassisted or even attend to her own hygiene or activities of daily living.



Our client continues to experience pain, restrictions, and loss of quality of life every day and has not returned to work. She is thankful that she purchased a significant amount of Uninsured Motorist Insurance Coverage to compensate her for her damages. Attorney Scott Murray worked with the New York and Florida insurance companies to settle this case for all available Bodily Injury (BI) and Uninsured Motorist (UM) insurance coverages.

Disclaimer: Each case is unique, and the results in one case do not necessarily indicate the quality or value of another case.

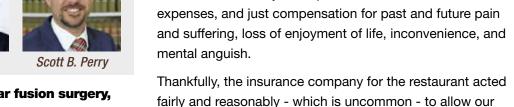


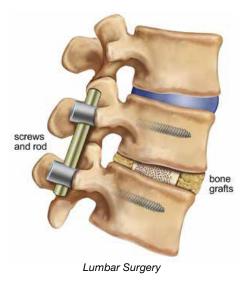
# \$651,000 Settlement: Man Falls at Restaurant

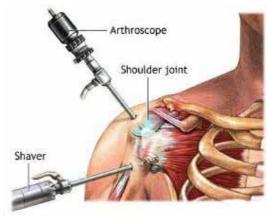
Our client suffered severe head, back, neck, and shoulder injuries as from a serious fall caused by a restaurant's negligence in 2015. **The injuries** 



from the tragic fall required a lumbar fusion surgery, arthroscopic shoulder surgery, and multiple, spinal epidural and facet injections.







Attorneys Jason J. Guari and Scott B. Perry negotiated a

pre-lawsuit settlement with the restaurant's liability insurer

which allowed for reimbursement of extensive, outstanding

medical bills, money to be put aside for future medical

client to resolve his claim prior to filing a lawsuit.

Arthroscopic Shoulder Surgery

### **Major Airline Ignores Safety: Seriously Injures Passenger & Forces Litigation**

Continued from first page

her injuries. In an effort to amicably resolve the claim out of the public eye, Attorneys Guari and Perry presented a confidential demand package to American Airlines.

Instead of recognizing that American Airlines was wrong, it refused to make an offer to settle.

Therefore, on July 28, 2017, Attorneys Guari and Perry filed a federal lawsuit in the Southern District of Florida seeking damages on behalf of Ms. Fanelli for the grossly negligent conduct of American Airlines. ■



# Firm Settles Chain Reaction Rear-End Collision Case: A Result of Aggressive & Distracted Driving

In June of 2014, our client was a restrained driver of a brand new white Mini Cooper that was traveling northbound during rush hour on I-95. As traffic slowed, she came to a complete stop and without warning was forcefully rear-ended by a black BMW. The immense force of the crash propelled it into the car directly in front of her and caused the Mini Cooper's air bags to deploy. In all, the initial impact by the BMW into her Mini Cooper caused a chain reaction that damaged five cars





Keith Hedrick

and resulted in injuries to at least two individuals. As a result of this crash, her new Mini Cooper was declared a total loss.

Following the crash, our client was seen at Good Samaritan Hospital, where she was treated for injuries to her head, neck, back, chest and left shoulder. Over the course of nearly two and a half years, she underwent extensive treatment to her neck and back.

Thankfully, the driver of the BMW that caused the crash carried **Bodily Injury (BI) automobile insurance coverage,** which is, surprisingly, not required by Florida Law. However, despite clear liability on the part of the BMW driver and clear damages to our client caused by the crash, the BMW driver's **insurance company failed to act reasonably and forced attorneys Scott Murray and Keith Hedrick to file suit to ensure a fair and just result.** 

During the course of discovery, it was uncovered that just prior to the crash the driver of the BMW had been seen speeding, weaving through heavy traffic, using her cellphone, cutting off other drivers, and nearly causing an accident. In turn, Mr. Murray and Mr. Hedrick moved to add punitive damages against the defendant driver for her conscious disregard for the life and safety of others.





Ultimately, her case settled for an amount that represented fair and just compensation for her past and future medical expenses, pain and suffering, and the loss of the capacity to enjoy life. This case is a reminder of the importance of driving safely and refraining from using cellular telephones while driving. ■

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### Murray Guari Trial Attorneys PL

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