

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

Negligent Truck Driver Strikes Bicyclist Causing Catastrophic Injuries

Partners Jason Guari & Scott Perry Recover in Excess of the \$1,000,000 **Policy Limits**

Our client was returning home on her bicycle when the driver of a 2004 Mack Truck (pictured on page 4), hauling a trailer with construction equipment, crossed the double line into the oncoming lane and struck our client as she crossed the road. The photograph below identifies the location of the accident and the path/direction of the truck and trailer prior to impact.

The truck – which weighed over 60,000 pounds – laid down more than 170 feet of skid marks (as shown in the photograph on page 4) prior to striking our client and pinning her under the truck's axle requiring extrication. Using an expert, we showed that the driver was speeding.



Due to the seriousness of our client's injuries, she was rushed by Trauma Hawk (a helicopter) to a local trauma hospital in West



Jason J. Guari

Scott B. Perry

Palm Beach, where she remained in a coma. She suffered subdural hematomas, a patella fracture, a subarachnoid hemorrhage, a petrous temporal bone transverse fracture, a occipital fracture, a subgaleal hematoma, and a severe degloving injury to her anterior thigh ("degloving" is when the top layers of skin and tissue are ripped from the underlying muscle). While at the hospital, our client underwent multiple, surgical procedures to repair her injuries. During her forty (40) day hospital stay, she also participated in extensive, In-Patient Physical Therapy. To date, our client is recovering the best she can - doing gait therapy and Out-Patient Physical Therapy.

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Seven Figure Settlement for Injured Passenger

Attorneys Scott Murray and Keith Hedrick recently settled a seven (7) figure claim, on behalf of their clients for personal injuries





Keith R. Hedrick

and loss of consortium damages. Our client, Mr. D, was involved in a major motor vehicle accident when a sedan violated the right-of-way of the SUV in which Mr. D was traveling as a restrained, front seat passenger.



As a result of the crash, Mr. D sustained substantial injuries to his neck, low back, right shoulder, and left knee. After



conservative treatment failed, Mr. D. underwent the following surgical procedures:

- **Neck surgery** three-level anterior cervical discectomy and fusion ("ACDF") at C4-5, C5-6, and C6-C7;
- Right shoulder surgery arthroscopy with arthroscopic subacromial decompression and debridement of superior labral tear; and

3. **Left knee surgery** – arthroscopy with arthroscopic partial medial meniscectomy, chondroplasty patella, and medial femoral condyle as well as femoral trochlea.

Below are x-rays showing the three-level ACDF:





Following his treatment, Mr. D's medical bills were in excess of \$350,000. Further, his treating physician's records reflected that Mr. D sustained a 33% permanent, partial impairment of the whole person according to AMA **Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment**, and he would continue to need additional medical treatment over the rest of his life - including the possibility of additional major surgical procedures.

Despite the heavy impact, clear liability, substantial medical treatment/bills, and Mr. D's pain and suffering, the insurance company attempted to discount Mr. D's claim and refused to offer a reasonable settlement. Knowing that our client would make a credible, articulate, and endearing witness and given the seriousness of the injuries caused by this crash, Partner Scott Murray made the strategic decision to allow the insurance company to take a presuit statement and schedule pre-suit medical examination with a doctor of its choice. This strategy worked and over the course of a four (4) week negotiation process, Mr. Murray and Mr. Hedrick secured a significant, seven figure settlement to fairly compensate our client for his personal injuries related to this crash without the necessity of filing a time consuming and potentially expensive lawsuit, all to the benefit of our client.

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



Driver Using Cell Phone Causes Rear-End Collision – Settlement Achieved

Where a driver using a cell phone causes a rear-end collision injuring a husband / father of young children - Partner Jason Guari & Attorney Rudolph Sohl settle client's Personal Injury case & Diminution of Vehicle Value claim - resulting in a Confidential Settlement.

At first, the damage to our client's new, 2019 Volkswagen Jetta did not seem to be that significant on the exterior as

shown below:

However, the Property Damage Estimates and **Photographs** were requested by Murray Guari Trial Attorneys from

the negligent driver's insurance company, and they told a different story about the force of the impact caused by the at-fault driver. The photograph below shows the crush damage to the steel trunk pan underneath the bumper



cover.

Our client suffered low back pain and leg extremity pain that caused him to undergo Physical Therapy,



Jason J. Guari

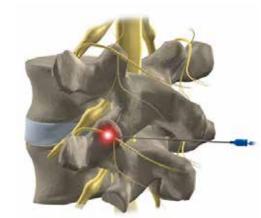
Rudolph W. Sohl

MRIs, Injection Therapy, and Surgical Procedures with an orthopedic doctor. After undergoing facet injections at L4-5 and L5-S1, which therapeutically helped, he submitted for an L3 through S1 rhizotomy, a surgical

procedure that severs the pain signal off at the nerve.

Inserted to the right is a medical image showing a lumbar rhizotomy procedure.

Thankfully, the lumbar rhizotomy achieved its



therapeutic goal by providing our client with long standing relief of his low back pain. Our client incurred in excess of \$60,000 in medical expenses and Partner Jason Guari resolved his case for a Confidential Settlement after presenting a pre-suit demand.

Since his new, 2019 Jetta was repaired and not a total loss, its value was diminished because of the crash by several thousand dollars; therefore, Attorney Sohl successfully negotiated a Diminution in

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Partners Jason Guari & Scott Perry Recover in Excess of the \$1,000,000 Policy Limits

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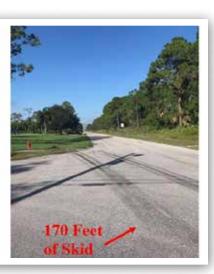
Murray Guari Trial Attorneys cautions all motor vehicle operators to be extra vigilant – especially during this time – to ensure the overall safety of Bicyclists and Pedestrians.

Bicyclists and Pedestrians, too, must be aware of all of their surroundings at all relevant times on our roadways.

Remember, when riding a bicycle do not wear headphones/earbuds/Airpods in both ears – 1) because it is illegal and 2) so you can hear and be aware of your surroundings.

If you or a loved one are hurt in a crash, call us to help protect your rights. ■





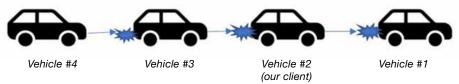
4 Car Pile-up...But Who Caused It?

Our client was involved in a multi-car crash, through no fault of her own. She was Vehicle #2 of 4 vehicles. (See illustration below). She came to a complete stop, leaving several feet between the front of her vehicle and the rear of the vehicle in front of her. Suddenly and without warning, she was then struck in the rear twice, one or both of the impacts caused her to be pushed forward into the rear of the vehicle in front of her.

Unfortunately, the initial investigation by the insurance company determined that our client was at fault and denied liability. The insurance company's investigation was not thorough and relied on inaccurate witnesses.

With conflicting accounts of what happened, Partner Scott Murray and his team conducted their own investigation, including examining the physical evidence and speaking to witnesses. The newly gathered evidence convinced the insurance company to pay policy limits, despite its initial denial of coverage.

Murray Guari has the resources and the know-how to fight for their clients when insurance companies ignore the facts and refuse to be reasonable.



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Murray Guari Trial Attorneys PL

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