

Automobile Negligence

Laura Lynn Loftin, an incapacitated adult, by and through her court appointed guardian, Lynda White, v. Southern Guaranty Insurance Company

Judgment: \$7,500,000.00

Laura Loftin was a college student in Tallahassee attending Florida State University and was on her way to school when a vehicle coming in the opposite direction crashed into her. As a result of the accident, Laura suffered significant brain injury resulting in alteration of mental status and required prolonged hospitalizations in Gainesville, Florida and Atlanta, Georgia. Although Laura made significant progress and was able to return to an independent life, she suffered permanent brain injuries. Manuel Epelbaum who represented the plaintiff in this case was able to obtain a consent judgment against the defendants, which resulted in a bad faith lawsuit against the insurance company and further recovery on behalf of the plaintiff beyond the policy limits of \$1,000,000.00.

Patricia Hodges v. City of Forest Lake, et al

Settlement: \$5,850,000.00

Robert J. Dickman represented plaintiffs' survivors in this case, which included a wife and child following a car accident caused by defective roadway in Orange County, California. Plaintiffs were able to prove that defective roadway resulted in a car accident resulting in tragic injuries to their father and husband. This is one of the largest wrongful death settlements in the history of California.

Dr. John Doe v. XYZ Corporation

Settlement: \$5,000,000.00

Plaintiff was a well known ophthalmologist who was struck by a truck while driving in Miami Beach resulting in severe injuries and treatment at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Plaintiff suffered closed head injuries and change of mental status resulting in loss of the ability to continue as a physician. Plaintiffs were successful in establishing vicarious liability for the driver of the truck and sued a major bread wholesaler. Plaintiff has made a significant recovery and is now living an independent life, but he can no longer pursue his medical career. This case was litigated by Robert J. Dickman and Manuel Epelbaum.

Angulo v. Ryder Truck Rental

Settlement: \$3,200,000.00

Gloria Angulo was a passenger in a vehicle that was rear-ended on the Palmetto Expressway. Plaintiffs were able to prove that the driver of the vehicle was in the course and scope of his employment with Ryder Truck Rental. The driver of the rear-ending vehicle was at a party where he was sponsoring business on behalf of Ryder and Plaintiffs were able to prove through credit card records that he was in the course and scope of his employment at the time of the accident. Gloria unfortunately suffered severe burns to her body and was treated at Jackson Memorial Hospital. This case was litigated by Manuel Epelbaum and Robert J. Dickman.

Jane Doe v. XYZ Insurance Corporation

Settlement: \$2,000,000.00

This case arose out of an excess judgment against an insurance company following an automobile accident with its insured. Plaintiffs collected the underlying policy limits and then pursued the insurance company for the excess judgment and were able to collect additional sums. This case settled at mediation. This case was litigated by Manuel Epelbaum.

Louis Pare v. North Miami General Hospital

Settlement: \$2,000,000.00

Plaintiff was involved in a car accident and went to the emergency room at North Miami General Hospital complaining of neck pain and dizziness. He was diagnosed with having a whiplash. Rather than remaining in the hospital, he signed out AMA. Several days later, he passed out and suffered a blunt trauma to his head resulting in a brain bleed. Plaintiffs sued the emergency room alleging that they failed to diagnose a neck fracture at the time that the Plaintiff was in the emergency room, which would have resulted in his admission diagnosis and would have resulted in his not suffering blunt trauma to the brain. This case was settled during trial by Manuel Epelbaum and Robert J. Dickman.

Jones v. State Farm Insurance Company

Settlement: \$1,000,000.00

Plaintiff's daughter was a freshman at the University of South Florida when she was struck as a passenger by a drunk driver. Defendants refused to settle and a verdict was entered on behalf of the Plaintiff, which was eventually collected in a bad faith lawsuit filed in Federal Court. This case was litigated by Robert J. Dickman and Manuel Epelbaum.