

NORTH CAROLINA Lawyers Weekly

Roadside crash leads to \$3.25M settlement

By: Heath Hamacher October 28, 2021

The estate of a woman who was killed as she sat in her disabled car has settled its wrongful death suit for \$3.25 million, the estate's attorney reports.

Mark Gray II of Gray Legal Group in Greensboro reports that the victim was on her way home from work one early afternoon when her sedan broke down in the right lane of Interstate 40. As she sat in her vehicle with her blinkers on, a tanker being operated by a young driver ran over her vehicle, Gray said. She survived for 11 days before succumbing to her injuries.

"The young mother left behind a young son who will inherit her estate but will also never get to truly experience the love of his mother," Gray said.

Pursuant to a confidentiality agreement, many details of the case, including names of the parties and venue, have been withheld.

Gray said that defense counsel had initially contested the tanker driver's liability and raised the defense of contributory negligence until the investigation—which included eyewitnesses, subpoenas of the local police department, and expert opinions—proved otherwise.

The case was settled prior to any lawsuit being filed. The settlement was approved (because the beneficiary is a minor) by Judge James Hill in October.



Gray

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SETTLEMENT REPORT — MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH

Amount: \$3.25 million

Injuries alleged: Death

Case name: Case settled before any suit was filed

Venue: Confidential

Date of settlement: October 2021

Most helpful experts: Steve Farlow (engineer and accident reconstruction analyst)

Attorney for plaintiff: Mark Gray II of Gray Legal Group in Greensboro

Attorneys for defendant: Withheld

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