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September 5, 2011

SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$100,000

Vol. 14 , No. 36

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

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Drunk driver runs stop sign

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle/Stop Sign/Passenger/
Impaired Driver

WRONGFUL DEATH
Adult

NO COURT/UNFILED SETTLEMENT

Estate of Samuel Lee Dickens v. Safeco Insurance Company,

Docket number: Not reported. Judge: Not reported. Trial type: Settlement, Settlement date: 6/9/2011.

SETTLEMENT: \$100,000

COUNSEL

Plaintiff: Scott J. Corwin, A Professional Law Corporation, Los Angeles.

Defendant: None.

FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to plaintiff: On April 9, 2011, decedent Samuel Lee Dickens, age 62, was a passenger in a 2009 Toyota driving southbound on Normandie Avenue in Gardena, California. Defendant, who was driving a 2001 Acura west-bound on 141st Street, failed to stop at the stop sign and collided with plaintiff's vehicle. The force of the impact caused plaintiff's vehicle to lose control and collide with the west curb of Normandie Avenue. Defendant was arrested for driving under the influence. Defendant did not have a valid automobile policy at the time of the accident.

Plaintiffs alleged that defendant was negligent in the operation of the motor vehicle. Defendant is in jail pending two counts of second-degree murder (a child in the vehicle also died).

CLAIMED INJURIES

According to plaintiff: Death.

CLAIMED DAMAGES

Not reported.

SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

According to plaintiff: Defendant was uninsured. The owner of the vehicle, who was also injured in the accident, had a \$100,000/\$300,000 to all claimants. After substantial negotiations amongst the claimants, an agreement as to the division of the policy proceeds was reached.

EXPERTS

Not reported.

COMMENTS

According to plaintiff: The insurance carrier was Safeco Insurance Company of America; the adjuster was Monika Avansino.

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