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SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$100,000

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

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Vehicle stopped for traffic on freeway rear-ended

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle/Rear-End/Parked/Stalled/Stopped Vehicle/Interstate/Freeway

No COURT/UNFILED SETTLEMENT

Carleton v. Espinoza, Trial type: Settlement. Settlement date: 3/24/2009.

SETTLEMENT: \$100,000

COUNSEL

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

Defendant: None.

FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to plaintiff: On June 1, 2007, plaintiff Ingrid Carleton, a 30-year-old medical lab technician, was driving a 1999 Toyota Camry southbound on the 605 Freeway when traffic came to a complete stop. Plaintiff's vehicle was rear-ended by defendant Espinoza operating his 1998 Dodge Ram 1500. Plaintiff alleged that defendant driver was negligent in the operation of a motor vehicle and that all of plaintiff's claimed injuries were a direct result of the subject motor vehicle accident. Defendant accepted liability but disputed the nature and extent of plaintiff's claimed injuries.

CLAIMED INJURIES

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff suffered injuries to her neck, shoulders, and lower back, requiring physical therapy. A cervical spine MRI demonstrated a 3 mm C5-C6 disc protrusion, causing bilateral foraminal stenosis. Plaintiff

may require an anterior cervical discectomy and fusion in the future.

CLAIMED DAMAGES

According to plaintiff: \$11,256 past medical; \$60,000 future medical; \$29,392 loss of earnings.

SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

According to plaintiff: Defendant paid his \$15,000 liability policy limit. Plaintiff made an underinsured motorist demand for her full \$85,000 in remaining available UIM policy limits, which were ultimately paid.

EXPERTS

None.

COMMENTS

According to plaintiff: The insurance carrier was Commerce West Insurance; the adjuster was Cynthia Galang. The underinsured carrier was Automobile Club of Southern California; the adjuster was Steven Blair.

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