

# TRIALS DIGEST®

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AUGUST 14, 2006

Vol. 9, No. 33

**SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$144,000**

## VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

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### **SETTLEMENT—Passenger suffers injuries when vehicle rear-ended by bus**

#### VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle/Rear-End/Bus

#### LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

*Anguiano v. Cornejo*, Long Beach.

Settlement date: 11/13/2003.

**SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$144,000**

#### COUNSEL

**Plaintiff: Scott J. Corwin, Law Offices of Scott J. Corwin, Los Angeles.**

Defendant: None.

#### FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to plaintiff: On December 5, 2002, plaintiff Anguiano, a 37-year-old homemaker, was a passenger in a vehicle that was traveling eastbound on Willow Street in the number three of three lanes. Defendant Cornejo was also traveling eastbound on Willow Street in a Bluebird bus and rear-ended plaintiff's vehicle.

Plaintiff alleged that defendant was negligent in the operation of a motor vehicle and that all of her claimed injuries were a direct result of the accident.

Defendant disputed liability claiming that plaintiff's driver made an illegal lane change cutting off defendant and argued that it was only 50 percent responsible for her damages.

Defendant further disputed the nature and extent of her claimed injuries; that she did not need surgery; and that she had pre-existing lumbar spine disease.

#### CLAIMED INJURIES

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff sustained cervical and lumbar strains and sprains requiring physical therapy. An MRI scan revealed an L4-L5 posterior annular fissure with associated broad-based posterior 4 mm disk herniation. Plaintiff may need a lumbar laminectomy and discectomy in the future.

#### CLAIMED DAMAGES

According to plaintiff: \$30,317 past medical; \$40,000 future medical.

#### SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

Not reported.

#### EXPERTS

None.

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