

# TRIALS DIGEST®

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**SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$170,000**

## VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

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### **SETTLEMENT—Passenger who suffered injuries in vehicle accident sues driver for signal violation**

#### **VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE**

Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle/Signal Violation/Intersection

#### **No COURT/UNFILED SETTLEMENT**

*Douglas v. Yonack*. Settlement date: 4/18/2005.

**SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$170,000**

#### **COUNSEL**

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

Defendant: None.

#### **FACTS/CONTENTIONS**

According to plaintiff: On October 11, 2004, plaintiff, a 20-year-old college student, was a passenger in defendant's vehicle that was traveling southbound on Sepulveda Blvd., when defendant driver ran a red light at Magnolia and hit another vehicle in the intersection.

Plaintiff alleged defendant was negligent in the operation of a motor vehicle and that all of plaintiff's claimed injuries were a direct result of the trauma the patient sustained in the accident.

Defendant accepted liability but disputed the nature and extent of plaintiff's claimed injuries.

#### **CLAIMED INJURIES**

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff was knocked unconscious for a minute at the scene and sustained a concussion and post-concussive syndrome. Paramedics transported plaintiff to the emergency room, where a battery of CT and MRI scans showed no abnormalities. Plaintiff had two follow-up visits with a neurologist. Plaintiff also sustained a cervical and lumbar strain and sprain, which required physical therapy for about three months. No residual problems after a good recovery.

#### **CLAIMED DAMAGES**

According to plaintiff: \$32,930 past medical; no future medical or loss of earnings.

#### **SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS**

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff demanded \$225,000. Defendant initially offered \$96,000.

#### **EXPERTS**

None.