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SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$100,000

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

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SETTLEMENT—Plaintiff rear-ended by intoxicated driver

VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE

Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle/Rear-End/Parked/Stalled/
Stopped Vehicle/Impaired Driver: Alcohol

No COURT/UNFILED SETTLEMENT

Connolly v. Rapoport. Settlement date: 11/20/2004.

SETTLEMENT RESULT: \$100,000

COUNSEL

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

Defendant: None.

FACTS/CONTENTIONS

According to plaintiff: On July 20, 2003, plaintiff, a 42-year-old freelance cameraman, was traveling northbound on Laurel Canyon Boulevard in the number one of two lanes. He stopped for a red light at an intersection at Ventura Place when defendant, who was also northbound on Laurel Canyon Boulevard, rear-ended plaintiff. Defendant was arrested and convicted for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Plaintiff alleged that 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 that plaintiff sustained in the accident.

Defendant third-party driver admitted liability. Defendant underinsured motorist carrier accepted liability but disputed the nature and extent of plaintiff's claimed injuries and the need for future surgery. Defendant underinsured motorist carrier further contended that the syrinx injuries were congenital and could not possibly have been traumatically induced.

CLAIMED INJURIES

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff sustained a 3-4 mm disk protrusion at C4-C5 and C5-C6, small focal traumatic C7-T1, 2 mm syrinx in the central portion of the spinal cord, focal traumatic T3 to T5 syrinx in the central portion of the spinal cord, measuring greater than 50 percent of the diameter of the spinal cord. Plaintiff is a candidate for surgical intervention in his cervical spine at the C4 and C5-C6 levels.

CLAIMED DAMAGES

According to plaintiff: \$16,886 past medical; \$55,000 future medical.

SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

According to plaintiff: Plaintiff demanded, and the third-party defendant tendered, its \$15,000 policy limits. Defendant underinsured motorist carrier tendered its \$85,000 underinsured motorist policy limits after plaintiff's demand.

EXPERTS

None.

COMMENTS

According to plaintiff: The case was settled without the need for the filing of a lawsuit.