

## Jury returns \$25K more than amount asked for in car wreck case

By: Virginia Lawyers Weekly January 15, 2007

Both vehicles were rendered a total loss when the defendant's vehicle turned into the plaintiff's at an intersection. Defendant pled guilty to reckless driving. Defendant was uninsured. Even though the plaintiff had objective injuries (fractures of the wrist and patella), Allstate negotiated as if it were a MIST case (maybe the Colossus computer had a bad day). The initial offer was \$15K, but increased to \$30K at the eve of trial. Counsel was authorized to accept \$60K to avoid the uncertainties and expense of trial.

At trial, counsel asked for \$150K, but the jury gave more.

**Type of Action:** Personal injury; auto

**Injuries Alleged:** Fractures of left wrist and right leg. Ratings of 10% and 15%, respectively

**Name of Case:** Walsh v. Blackshaw (Allstate Ins. Co. – UM)

**Court:** Loudoun County Circuit Court

**Case No.:** 32360

**Tried Before:** Jury

**Name of Judge:** Burke F. McCahill

**Special Damages:** Medical bills \$10,500.00; Lost wages \$1,000.00

**Verdict/Settlement:** Verdict

**Amount:** \$175,000.00, plus interest from date of accident

**Verdict Date:** Nov. 21, 2005

**Demand:** \$60,000.00

**Offer:** \$30,000.00

**Experts:** John A. Bruno, M.D.

**Insurer:** Allstate

**Plaintiff's Attorney:** Benjamin J. Trichilo, Fairfax

[06-T-16]

