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Suits & Deals

\$925K in Drunk Driver v. Motorcycle

Pruscino v. Harshaney Jr.: A husband and wife whose motorcycle was struck by a drunken driver agreed to a \$925,000 settlement on Dec. 17 in a personal injury case that was resolved pre-suit.

According to a police report and the plaintiffs' attorney, Claudio Pruscino and his wife, Carol, were riding north on Lloyd Road in Aberdeen on June 6, 2018, when a Ford pickup truck driven by Charles Harshaney Jr. failed to yield when making a left turn. Harshaney, 65, of Dunellen, was an employee of Lochiatto Paving & Masonry, and the vehicle was registered to Vito Lochiatto.

Both Pruscinos were thrown from the motorcycle and complained of pain and head trauma. Claudio Pruscino, who was driving, had visible facial injuries and abrasions to his right arm. He underwent surgery with hardware for a fractured pelvis and for a fractured second toe. He also suffered multiple fractured ribs and traumatic rupture of the urethra, according to the cou-

ple's attorney, Adam Epstein of Mazie, Slater, Katz and Freeman in Roseland.

Carol Pruscino complained of pain to her right leg and arm. She suffered a fracture to the right hand and extensive lacerations and contusions.

Harshaney was charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and failure to yield the right of way. The Pruscinos made a claim on the \$1 million auto and commercial policy for Lochiatto Paving and Masonry with United Fire Group of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. On Dec. 17, 2018, the Pruscinos agreed to accept \$925,000 to resolve their claim, Epstein said.

An adjuster who worked on the case would not comment on the settlement. United Fire Group did not respond to a call about the case.

— Charles Toutant



ADAM EPSTEIN

PHOTO BY CARMEN NATALE