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Passaic

NJ Transit to pay \$2.3M to man hit by bus, dragged nearly 2 miles on highway

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By **Jeff Goldman | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com**

A Passaic County man seriously injured after being struck by a New Jersey Transit bus and dragged underneath for nearly 2 miles has settled his lawsuit against the agency for \$2.3 million.

Seres Arpad was walking his dog through an intersection near the Wayne Transit Center on Dec. 2, 2014 when he was hit by a bus making a left turn.

Arpad, now 63, of Wayne, was trapped under the bus' rear axle as the driver stopped to drop off passengers and then continued on to Route 23 north. Police pulled the bus over after it traveled about 1.7 miles after a passenger called 911. Arpad's dog was killed.

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The bus driver said he didn't realize he struck someone despite hearing a noise. NJ Transit argued Arpad was not in a crosswalk on a dark, rainy night.

[NJ Transit agrees to pay \\$3.65M to settle racial discrimination lawsuit](#)

The New Jersey Law Journal [first reported the \\$2.3 million settlement](#). Adam Epstein, an associate at Mazie Slater Katz & Freeman in Roseland, which handled the case for Arpad confirmed the details to NJ Advance Media.

Arpad lost vision in his right eye, broke his right fibula and several ribs. He also sustained burns and abrasions across his body, Epstein said. Arpad spent seven weeks at St. Joseph's Medical Center, undergoing five surgeries.

The impact of being hit has also caused necrosis in Arpad's buttocks.

Scheduled to go to trial in Passaic County on March 24, the sides reached a settlement nine days earlier.

A spokesman for the law firm representing NJ Transit, Teaneck-based DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, didn't immediately offer a comment on the settlement.

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