

\$125,000 Award for a Motor Vehicle Accident

Denville, NJ

Christopher L. Musmanno, Esq., Chair of the Personal Injury Department and Certified Civil Trial Attorney with the law firm of Einhorn, Barbarito, Frost & Botwinick, PC in Denville, NJ, announces a \$125,000 settlement for a motor vehicle accident.

Plaintiff was a front-seat passenger of a motor vehicle operated by her son, when a public bus violently struck the rear of the vehicle in which Plaintiff was riding as a passenger. Initially, Plaintiff did not present to the hospital as she was under the mistaken impression that she was merely suffering from some minor soreness and that her injuries would quickly resolve. It soon became evident, however, that her pain was increasing both in terms of severity and frequency with each passing day. She presented to a chiropractor where she complained of severe pain to her low back, mid back, knees and neck. Given her complaints, she immediately commenced a course of conservative treatment which consisted of chiropractic treatment and physical modalities. She was then referred for a series of diagnostic testing in order to better ascertain the nature and extent of her injuries and underwent MRI testing of her lumbar spine which demonstrated a left paracentral disc herniation at L5-S1 with encroachment upon the descending left S1 nerve root. With respect to her right knee, the MRI report revealed a horizontal tear of the posterior horn of the medial meniscus. She was thereafter referred to a pain management specialist and a neurosurgeon.

In light of Plaintiff's severe objective findings, subjective complaints and due to the failure of her injuries to respond to conservative course of treatment, her pain management doctor administered a left L5-S1 transforaminal epidural steroid injection. When the injection failed to alleviate her pain, her treating neurosurgeon recommended surgical intervention, undergoing the following procedures: (1) left L5 hemilaminectomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy with decompression of nerve root; (2) left S1 lateral recess decompression and foraminotomy with decompression of nerve root; (3) open L5-S1 discectomy; and (4) harvesting and placement of fat graft.

The case settled prior to the scheduling of a trial, for \$125,000.