

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

\$1.25 MILLION SETTLEMENT

Woman settles with distracted driver after highway crash

■ Scott Lauck



Gary Burger



Julie Siegel

A woman who was severely injured when a distracted driver rear-ended her at highway speed reached a \$1.25 million settlement, according to her attorneys.

Gary Burger of Burger Law and Julie Siegel of Siegel Injury Law said the collision took place on Nov. 12, 2019, on Highway 270 in Maryland Heights. The plaintiff was stopped in traffic when the defendant crashed into her at about 60 mph and pushed her into the vehicle in front of her.

The defendant testified in his deposition that he was reading Facebook messages on his cell phone at the time of the crash.

The plaintiff suffered painful injuries to her head, neck, spinal cord, left shoulder, ribs, hand and foot. After failing to respond to conservative treatments, the plaintiff underwent a cervical disc replacement as well as a left shoulder arthroscopy with labral

debridement, biceps tenodesis and a distal clavicle resection.

She's also undergone treatment with multiple trauma counselors for PTSD and worsening of her pre-existing anxiety and depression.

The case settled after two rounds of mediation ahead of a scheduled June trial.

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION

Venue: St. Louis County Circuit Court
Case Number/Date: Confidential/Feb. 22, 2023

Injuries: C5-6 and C6-7 herniated disks, T2 vertebral body fracture and left shoulder SLAP tear

Special Damages: \$500,000 charged medical bills

Caption: Confidential

Plaintiff's Attorneys: Gary Burger, Burger Law, St. Louis; Julie Siegel, Siegel Injury Law, St. Louis

Defendant's Attorney: Confidential