

\$3,015,000

Automobile Accident  
**INTERSECTION COLLISION**

**FACTS:** Plaintiff, a 36 year old aircraft mechanic, was a passenger in a co-worker's vehicle. They left the airport to go to lunch. On their way back from lunch, Plaintiff's co-worker was driving. Plaintiff was in the passenger seat. At an intersection near the airport, Plaintiff's co-worker intended to make a left turn. The traffic light for his direction of travel turned yellow. He began to make his left turn. While he was in the process of making his left turn, he was broadsided by a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction.

**CONTENTIONS:** Plaintiff contended that Defendant was in Los Angeles on business, she was driving a rental car and was not familiar with the area, she was talking with her co-workers in her vehicle, and she was not paying attention. Plaintiff contended that as Defendant approached the intersection, she noticed a large truck and trailer to her right which caught her attention. When she turned her attention back to the road in front of her, she was already entering the intersection. Plaintiff contended that Defendant's vehicle entered the intersection on a red light. Defendant contended that she had the right of way since the other vehicle in which Plaintiff was a passenger was making a left turn at an intersection. Defendant also contended that the driver of the vehicle in which Plaintiff was a passenger was not paying attention or he should not have started his left turn when he saw her vehicle approaching the intersection.

**INJURIES:** Multiple fractures of pelvis and right hip requiring surgery and surgical hardware. Plaintiff claimed that he developed back pain requiring low back surgery as a result of his pelvis and hip injuries and unusual gait. Plaintiff claimed loss of earnings due to his inability to return to his job as an aircraft mechanic, requiring retraining to a sedentary job position.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Plaintiff's co-worker who was driving at the time of the accident and making the left turn had a \$15,000.00 policy limit. Defendant was found to be acting within the course and scope of her employment at the time of the accident and she was covered on her employer's insurance who contributed \$3 million.

**LANDER V. MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ, ET AL. .**

**CASE NUMBER:** BC 541586

**LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT**