

Recognizing Products Liability Claims in Motor Vehicle Accidents

The University of Texas School of Law | 2022 Car Crash Seminar

Muhammad S. Aziz



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Types of Claims

- Manufacturing Defect
- Design Defect
- Failure to Warn

2

Recognizing Potential Cases

- Minor Collision + Catastrophic Injury
- Multiple Occupants + Only One Seriously Injured
- Restrained Occupants + Seriously Injured or Ejected
- Restrained Occupants + Partial Ejection

3

Types of Defects

- Defective Airbag
 - Non-Deployment
 - Inadvertent Deployment
- Defective Pretensioner
- Defective Air Brake Compressor
- Defective Rear Seat Restraint System

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Case Study No. 1

Defective Airbag

Non-Deployment of Side Curtain Airbag

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Investigator's Narrative Opinion of What Happened
(Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary)

Driver of Unit 2 was traveling Westbound in the #2 lane in the 9100 block of W. Fairmont Pkwy approaching the intersection (9000 block of W. Fairmont Pkwy). Driver of Unit 1 was traveling Eastbound in the turn only lane in the 8900 block of W. Fairmont Pkwy to travel Northbound onto Canada Rd. Driver of Unit 2 signal light was green and driver of Unit 1 signal light turned red. Unit 1 disregarded the red light and struck Unit 2 on the front left side. Unit 2 vehicle then spun around and struck the concrete light pole on the left driver side before coming to a rest. Officer did not observe any damage to the light pole. Unit 1 at fault.

Event 1

Event 2

The diagram illustrates the intersection of 8900 W Fairmont PKWY, 9100 W Fairmont PKWY, and 3900 CANADA RD. Unit 1 is shown traveling Eastbound in the turn only lane, and Unit 2 is shown traveling Westbound in the #2 lane. The collision occurred at the intersection. Unit 2's vehicle is shown spinning around and striking the concrete light pole on the left driver side. The diagram also shows the location of Genoa Red Bluff.

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