

Family settles for \$8.2M in crash that left father dead, son injured

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The family of a man killed in an automobile crash that also left the man's adult son seriously injured has settled its claims for \$8.2 million, the family's attorney reports.

Ralph Meekins of Teddy, Meekins, & Talbert in Shelby reports that the defendant driver and his employer have paid the settlement. Pursuant to a confidentiality agreement, many details of the case, including how the crash occurred and the names of the parties and defense counsel, have been withheld.

Meekins said that there were no medical expenses associated with the deceased man's claims because the man, 57, died at the scene. His 24-year-old son had approximately \$325,000 of



Ralph Meekins



Will Meekins

admissible medical expenses related to his injuries, which included two broken legs.

Meekins said that during mediation he presented a 15-minute "day in the life of" video that he believes was instrumental in demonstrating the tremendous loss suffered by the family and that helped set the tone for the productive discussions that led to the settlement.

Meekins said that he was assisted by his son Will, a third-year law student at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

SETTLEMENT REPORT — MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH

Amount: \$8.2 million

Injuries alleged: One plaintiff was killed and the other suffered two broken legs

Case name: Withheld

Court: Withheld

Mediator/Judge: Withheld

Date of settlement: 2022

Insurance carrier: Withheld

Attorney for plaintiff: Ralph Meekins of Teddy, Meekins & Talbert in Shelby

Attorney(s) for defendant: Withheld