

VIRGINIA Lawyers Weekly

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■ AUGUST 26, 2024

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

Driver injured in head-on collision \$1,200,000 SETTLEMENT



Carlton Bennett

Type of action: Auto accident

Amount: \$1,200,000

Injuries alleged: Fractures to ankle and wrist, laceration and resulting scar to forehead and mild traumatic brain injury

Attorney for plaintiff: Carlton F. Bennett, Virginia Beach

Name of case: Silver v. Beachum

Description of case: Defendant was operating his motor vehicle in Virginia Beach. As he rounded a curve, he negligently drove off the roadway, corrected his vehicle and came back in the roadway, striking the oncoming vehicle being driven by Silver head-on. Defendant claimed the sun was in his eyes.

Court: Virginia Beach Circuit Court

Case no.: CL22-2145

Tried before: Mediation

Name of judge or mediator: Judge Jack Doyle (Ret.)

Date resolved: 3/11/2024

Special damages: \$174,000 in medical bills; \$105,000 in future projected medical bills; \$15,000 in lost wages

Demand: \$2,200,000

Offer: \$1,200,000

Verdict or settlement: Settlement

Silver suffered fractures to her wrist and ankle requiring surgical plates and screws. She had a large gash on her forehead with trap door defect with future revision surgery that will cost \$5,000. Silver suffered a mild traumatic brain injury and underwent extensive speech and occupational therapy at Dr. O'Shanick's Center for Neurorehabilitation. Silver was able to return to work and was promoted to office manager after the accident. Betty Overbey's future life care plan was unrebutted by the defendant.

Carlton Bennett, counsel for the plaintiff, provided case information.