

Verdicts & Settlements

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Verdicts & Settlements Final Preview

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FROM: EDITOR, VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS,  
THE DAILY JOURNAL CORPORATION  
(LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL,  
SAN FRANCISCO DAILY JOURNAL)

Dear Attorney:

We have noted the above-mentioned case with interest and would like to include it in a forthcoming issue of the weekly *Daily Journal* "Verdicts & Settlements" section. The Los Angeles Daily Journal (*established 1888*) and the San Francisco Daily Journal (*established 1893*) are the country's leading daily legal newspapers and the premier publications for court cases, profiles of judges and neutrals and for regular coverage of dozens of practice areas.

Below/attached please find a formatted version by way of a rough draft of the case for your review. If there are material errors in the below/attached report, or if you have additional information, **please respond within three (3) business days by FAX or EMAIL or the attached will be printed as it currently appears.** Feel free to mark up the page(s) submitted herewith or send additional pages.

**Please confirm receipt of this notice, by faxing back the report with your initials. If there are any inaccuracies in the attached report, please fax or email us those changes.** The Daily Journal Corporation reserves the right to exercise editorial prerogative regarding any submitted case reports.

We look forward to hearing from you. In the future, please consider submitting any cases that you would like us to include in the Daily Journal "Verdicts & Settlements" section either by visiting our web site ([www.dailyjournal.com](http://www.dailyjournal.com)) or by fax to (213) 229-5403 to the attention of Tess Santiago. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

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RESULT DATE: Sept. 10, 2007

07-JV\_1303

\_\_\_\_\_ (FIRST NAME) Avila, Teresa Gonzalez v. Dresick Farms (L-00916)

Hon. Christopher W. Yeager  
Imperial Superior

TOPIC: Personal Injury  
SUB TOPIC: Truck v. Van

VERDICT: \$5,600,000

ATTORNEY:

Plaintiff - Brian J. Panish, Spencer Lucas (Panish, Shea & Boyle, LLP, Los Angeles); James D. Hoey, III (Panish Hoey, LLP, La Jolla).

Defendant - , A. Daniel Bacalski, Jr., Denise M. Serino .

FACTS: In, 2001, Plaintiff Teresa Gonzalez, then 15 years of age, was riding in a family minivan driven by her father along with six other passengers. A commercial farm truck owned by Dresick Farms allegedly ran a stop sign and hit the minivan, causing it to roll repeatedly. The truck pierced the van's side, literally striking Teresa in the face.

Defendant Dresick Farms denied liability for six years, but finally admitted negligence on the part of the driver shortly before trial. The trial proceeded solely on the issue of damages.

INJURIES: Teresa suffered facial avulsion degloving (the flesh of her face was torn off), and several fractures to her skull and face. She has had 21 different facial surgeries. Gonzalez, now 21 years of age, was unable to finish high school and will need more surgery along with treatment for depression.

JURY TRIAL: Length, one month; Deliberation, two days

RESULT: Jury awarded Teresa \$5.6 million. (\$2.5 million for pain and suffering, \$1.2 million for ongoing medical expenses and \$1.9 million for other expenses).

OTHER INFORMATION: This is believed to be the largest personal injury verdict in Imperial County to date.



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**NOTES:**

DJ Reference Number: 07-JV\_1303 - \_\_\_\_\_ (FIRST NAME) Avila,  
Teresa Gonzalez v. Dresick Farms

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**Date and time of transmission:** Monday, September 17, 2007 9:37:36 AM  
**Number of pages including this cover sheet:** 03