

MICHIGAN
LAWYERS WEEKLY
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Verdicts & Settlements

Motor Vehicles

Brain Injury

Injuries alleged:

Traumatic brain injury

Name of case:

Butler v. Anchors Unlimited, Inc.

Court/case no.:

U.S. District Court, Easter District of Michigan

Name of judge:

Avern Cohn

Amount of settlement:

\$1.4 million (balance of policy limits); two other plaintiffs received \$200,000 by another attorney)

Date:

Nov. 10, 2000

Attorneys for the plaintiff:

Steve Gursten and Lawrence E. Gursten

Attorney for the defendant:

Withheld

Name/city of most helpful experts:

Dr. Michael Freeman, Salem, Ore.

Insurance carrier:

Erie Insurance Company

Highest offer:

\$600,000 until two weeks prior to trial

Other useful information:

A mediation award over the alleged \$600,000 policy limits was received. It was rejected and the attorneys sent asset interrogatories. The same insurance company then "discovered" there was another \$1 million umbrella. The law firm had insisted on the endorsement page of the insurance policy which showed the umbrella.

January 8, 2001