

**CORRIE JOHNSON V. GENNISE CARTER**

Case No. 01ca001697

Verdict Date: September 19, 2002

**TOPIC:** Motor Vehicle Auto Accident - Mail Truck - Sideswipe

**RESULT:** \$ 50,000 plus costs for a total judgment of approximately \$ 60,000. (verdict)

**INJURY:** Soft tissue neck and back injuries which plaintiff claimed were permanent. Her injury was accommodated at work for a period of time, but she was later ordered back to work without restriction or be fired. Plaintiff sought \$ 7,500 in medicals and \$ 20,000 in wage loss.

**STATE:** District Of Columbia

**COUNTY:** District of Columbia

**COURT:** Superior Court

**JUDGE:** Michael L. Rankin

**PLAINTIFF PROFILE:** Age: 25

Sex: Female

Occupation: U.s. Postal Worker

Marital Status: Single

**PLAINTIFF ATTORNEY:** Douglas R. Sparks, Washington;

**DEFENDANT ATTORNEY:** Jeffrey S. Seal, Greenbelt;

**FACTS:** A U.S. Postal worker alleged she was delivering mail from her truck when defendant driver broadsided her vehicle, knocking it over. Defendant argued that plaintiff made a sudden U-turn in front of her. The parties stipulated to damages of \$ 50,000 and the jury determined defendant was liable.

**Corrie Johnson** was a U.S. postal worker who was delivering mail from her truck and attempted to make a left turn after signaling. Johnson alleged that a vehicle traveling behind her, driven by Defendant Gennise Carter, lost control, veered over the center line and broadsided her vehicle, knocking it over. Johnson sustained soft tissue neck and back injuries. The parties stipulated to damages of \$ 50,000 and the case proceeded on the question of liability only.

Johnson alleged that Carter lost control of her vehicle and broadsided her as she (plaintiff) attempted a left turn, and that she was not attempting a U-turn. Defendant contended that Johnson had been stopped on the right side of the road and made a sudden U-turn in the path of her (defendant's) vehicle. Further, that plaintiff was responsible for the collision and that she (defendant) did not veer over the center line. There were no reliable, independent eyewitnesses to the accident.

**DEFENDANT EXPERTS:** Robert O. Gordon, M.D. - Orthopedist Washington, DC

**INSURANCE:** Allstate

**JURY DELIBERATIONS:** 20 minutes

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This case is closed.

Published in Vol. 15, No. 3