

Arbitrator Finds Award for Defense in Car Crash

July 2007. Mark Giannamore (Junior Partner/Los Angeles) in a recent third party binding arbitration held in Glendale received a defense award from the arbitrator. In this case, the defense was able to establish that plaintiff, driving a Porsche, made an abrupt lane change, (due to a stopped SUV at a crosswalk) in front of defendant's oncoming vehicle and made an emergency stop, when she realized that the SUV had stopped for a pedestrian. The defense established that the abrupt lane change, had reduced defendant's effective stopping distance, with the resulting rear end impact. The arbitrator found for the defense, and plaintiffs did not file a trial de novo, with the defense arbitration award being entered as a judgment.