

# MICHIGAN LAWYERS WEEKLY

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## VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

### \$800K arbitration award for mild TBI

*Plaintiff's head injury rendered him 'unemployable'*

The plaintiff was broadsided by a van driven by the defendant. The plaintiff spent three days in the hospital, and was treated for a head injury, a concussion, blurred vision and facial contusions.



GOODWIN

The plaintiff was participating in a state re-training, taking business and accounting classes due to downsizing in the engineering field. He was working full time at Dollar Castle, stocking shelves and setting up stores. As a result of the crash, the plaintiff could not

drive due to blurred vision, which rendered him unemployable.

The key to winning, plaintiff's counsel said, was a credible client. Moreover, counsel added that he undertook proper case preparation and communication with his client.

Finally, plaintiff's counsel told Lawyers Weekly that a strong primary care physician will ensure that a client receives the best care and treatment, which will assist in the ultimate success in a fair and just award.

**Type of action:** Auto negligence

**Type of injuries:** Traumatic brain injury (mild)

**Name of case:** Knopf v. Laws, et al.

**Court/case no./date:** Wayne County Circuit Court; #05-500-393-NI; June 20, 2006

**Name of judge:** Robert Ziolkowski

**Arbitration amount:** \$800,000

**Attorney for the plaintiff:**

Scott A. Goodwin

**Attorney for the defendant:** Withheld

**Name/city of most helpful experts:**

John J. Blase, Ph.D.; James Zender, Ph.D.; and Thomas C. Spoor, M.D.

**Insurance carrier(s):** Withheld

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