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Motorcycle crash brings \$2.1M accord

Head injury contested by defense; contended condition pre-existing

BY **JORDYN REILAND**
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A man who sustained a head injury in a DuPage County motorcycle crash settled his suit for \$2.15 million.

Wyatt Williams, then 35, was driving a 1986 Honda CN250 Helix scooter on June 26, 2015, heading west on North Avenue approaching its intersection with Maple Avenue in Elmhurst when Leslie Mueller, attempting to turn left onto Maple, struck Williams.

As a result of the crash, Williams sustained broken ribs, a torn ligament in one of his knees and a head injury, according to his attorney, Brian L. Salvi of Salvi Schostok & Pritchard P.C.

Williams was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

Since the incident, Williams has difficulty controlling his

emotions and has memory lapses as well as anxiety and chronic physical pain, Salvi said.

Williams sued Mueller in August 2015 in DuPage County Circuit Court, alleging she didn't yield to oncoming traffic or slow down.

The case was settled last week, days before a scheduled trial date, Salvi said. Circuit Judge Ronald D. Sutter approved the settlement order on July 12, according to online court records.

Mueller disputed the extent of Williams' injuries, specifically the traumatic brain injury. Salvi said the defense planned expert testimony to analyze a psychological exam done after the crash, that suggested the neurological issues Williams had existed prior to the crash and were not a result of it.

Williams had no evidence of prior neurological issues, Salvi said, but the defense "tried to make a mountain out of a molehill."

He said his client was "satisfied" with the settlement and was pleased to not have to go through a trial.



Brian L. Salvi

The \$2.1 million settlement was just below Mueller's \$2.25 million insurance policy limit, he said.

Williams is also represented by Jeffrey J. Kroll and Eirene N. Salvi of Salvi Schostok & Pritchard.

Mueller is represented by Ronald R. Aeschliman of the Law Offices of Loretta M. Griffin. He could not be reached for comment.

The 18th Judicial Circuit Court case is *Wyatt Williams v. Leslie Mueller*, 15 L 744.

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