

## PI E-MAIL & FAX ALERT

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### STEERING WHEEL INJURIES

Most drivers holding for dear life on their steering wheels during an accident can leave their hands and wrists exposed. The Steering Wheel is considered a "blunt instrument" for PI purposes.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome [CTS] is the most common steering wheel injury. Be careful, it's a tricky diagnosis. Be sure to review your patient's pre existing history. She might have worked on a computer for years with wrist complaints. If so, you will give apportionment, but clearly the prior stress helped "set her up" for the CTS accident injury. Many times the symptoms develop within 60 days of the accident.



Thanks to Jeff Coyle DC, Board Certified in Spinal Biomechanics, San Jose.

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**Free Monthly Teleconference  
Wednesday, June 24 @ 1:00 pm**

**GETTING PAID FOR PI**

**With special guest  
Mark Greenspan, Orthopedic Surgeon**

**E-mail [johntawlian@shawnsteel.com](mailto:johntawlian@shawnsteel.com) for  
telephone # and pass code.**

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**Shawn Steel is speaking in Ventura, CA  
CCA-Ventura County District  
Tuesday, July 14 @ 7:00 PM  
For details call John at (800) 626-0003**

### Bad News PI case:

**Defendant admitted but jury gave  
nothing. Plaintiffs owes \$33,000**

The Los Angeles Jury did not believe Jason when he said the collision was "a severe impact". Instead the pictures showed only "minor" damage. That Jason never fixed his car because there was almost no damage according to the court records. Still Jason claimed traumatic disc herniation and Grace cervical radiculitis.

Century National insurance hired an orthopedic surgeon and a biomechanical engineer. The plaintiffs called in the treating DC and an MD.

After discussing the case for only one hour the jury in an 11-1 vote held that Jason and Grace, though rear-ended could not get any money. The Judge awarded \$33,000 for defense jury trial costs against Jason. Kim v Alonso: KC 050 800 LA Superior Court. 10.28.08

### Good News PI case:

**\$104,000 awarded unsafe lane  
change. No contact between cars**

Bryan Osborne, [P] 46 year old carpenter was forced to take evasive action due to defendant's erratic driving on freeway. Plaintiff lost control. Defendant blamed another driver [phantom].

Osborne was helped by Rafael Rios DC of Rancho Cucamonga. Rios directed P to get MRI studies which show several disc bulges. Then referred P for an epidural injection.

P's medical bills were over \$20,000. Defendant eventually agreed to pay \$104,000 to settle. Osborne vs. Aroche KC 052 768 LA Superior Court 2.9.09. **For a copy of our case e-mail: [johntawlian@shawnsteel.com](mailto:johntawlian@shawnsteel.com)**