# [***Estate of Youssef Gabbay v. Pedro Fontanez; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 718***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4M1D-JRJ0-0223-Y14S-00000-00&context=)

L-3558-04

Sept. 4, 2006

**Headline:** $1.5 Million Settlement Reached In New Jersey ***Car*** ***Accident***

**Result:** $1.5 million settlement

**Court:** N.J. Super., Camden Co.

**Judge:** Robert Millenky

**Plaintiff Profile**

Youssef Gabbay

**Defendant Profile**

Pedro Fontanez

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Joseph Grimes, Grimes & Grimes, Cherry, Hill, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

V. Nicole Langfitt, Office of the New Jersey Attorney General, Trenton, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Wrongful death, pain and suffering

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that on Nov. 2, 2002, Youssef Gabbay, 91, was sitting in the backseat of a ***car*** that was rear-ended in Pennsauken, N.J., by an unmarked New Jersey State Police ***car*** driven by Pedro Fontanez. The force of the ***accident*** pushed Gabbay's ***car*** into the ***car*** in front of it, sources said.As a result of the ***accident***, sources said, Gabbay sustained multiple fractures, including a spinal fracture, which led to paralysis in both arms and his right leg. Sources said that within the next seven months, Gabbay was hooked up to a respirator after going into respiratory failure. He was never released from the hospital, sources said, and died in June 2003.

**Other:** At the time of the ***accident***, Gabbay was a normal, functioning 91-year-old with no known health problems, sources said.

**Defense:** Gabbay's seat belt may not have been on; his injuries may not have caused death.

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