# [***Greg Riley, Laurie Riley v. John Keenan, et al; 2007 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 2013***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4NY6-50K0-0223-Y0H4-00000-00&context=)

CAM-L-1839-03

May 24, 2007

**Headline:** Couple Injured In Drunken Driving ***Accident*** Awarded $2.75M In New Jersey State Court

**Result:** $2.75 million plaintiff verdict

**Injury:** Greg Riley - back injuries; Laurie Riley - broken back, broken pelvis and degloving injury to left leg

**Court:** N.J. Super., Camden Co.

**Judge:** Irvin J. Snyder

**Plaintiff Profile**

Greg Riley, Laurie Riley

**Defendant Profile**

John Keenan, Naylor's Liquors, Farrell's American Bistro

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Richard Grungo Jr., Archer & Greiner, Haddonfield, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

For Keenan - Brian McNulty, Sweeney & Sheehan, Westmont, N.J. For Farrell's - L. Patrick Dacey, Bolan, Jahnsen & Reardon, Shrewsbury, N.J. For Naylor's Liquors - Barbara Davis, Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, Cherry Hill

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Auto negligence; dram shop law violation

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that on Aug. 31, 2001, John Keenan had consumed alcohol at two bars, Naylor's Liquors in Berlin, N.J., and Farrell's American Bistro in Pittsgrove, N.J., before getting behind the wheel of his ***car*** and crossing the yellow line on Route 40 in Salem County and striking Greg and Laurie Riley's ***car*** head on.Keenan, sources said, had a blood-alcohol level of .178 percent. The legal limit in New Jersey was .10 percent in 2001 and has since been lowered to .08 percent, sources said.Sources said Greg Riley suffered back injuries. Laurie Riley, who was driving, broke her back and broke her pelvis and suffered a degloving injury to her left leg.The Rileys sued Keenan, Naylor's Liquors and Farrell's in 2003 in the Camden County Superior Court.

**Other:** The trial lasted eight days, and the jury deliberated five hours, sources said.The jury, sources said, found Keenan 55 percent liable for the ***accident***, with Naylor's Liquors and Farrell's each being found 22.5 percent liable.

**Defense:** Allegations denied.

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

Richard Saferstein, M.D., forensic scientist, Mount Laurel, N.J., testified on what happens to the body when alcohol is consumed Robert Wolf, Ph.D., Cherry Hill, N.J., vocational rehabilitation expert/economist, testified on the Rileys' injuries and the economic cost of the injuries to them William Simone, M.D., orthopedist, Philadelphia, testified about the extent of the Rileys' injuries

**Defendant Expert(s)**

Irving Ratner, M.D., orthopedist, Burlington, N.J., testified about the Rileys' injuries

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