# [***Hana Marsik, Jiri Marsik et al. v. George Kukla et al; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 723***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4M1D-JRJ0-0223-Y14Y-00000-00&context=)

MRS-L-2145-04; MRS-L-616-05; MRS-L-782-05

Aug. 29, 2006

**Headline:** Parties Reach $1.2 Million Settlement In New Jersey 2-Vehicle Crash

**Result:** $1.2 million settlement ($437,500 to Hana Marsik, $437,500 to Helena J. Kukla and $325,000 to the estate of Emily Paroulek)

**Court:** N.J. Super., Morris Co.

**Judge:** John J. Harper

**Plaintiff Profile**

Hana Marsik, Jiri Marsik, Helena Kukla, Tomas Korensky and Margaret Korensky Pages as executors of the estate of Emily Paroulek, deceased

**Defendant Profile**

George Kukla, Miguel Martinez, Pablo J. Asson, d/b/a Argentina Trucking, E&P Logistics Inc

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Donald Caminiti, Breslin & Breslin, Hackensack, N.J.; Amos Gern, Starr, Gern, Davison & Rubin, Roseland, N.J.; Ari Bernstein, Landel, Bernstein & Kalosieh, Franklin Lakes, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

Edward Martin, Martin & Simmons, Whitehouse, N.J.; D. Scott Conchar, Law Office of William Staehle, Morris Plains, N.J.; William Grae, Goldberg & Associates, Millburn, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Auto negligence

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that this settlement arises from the consolidation of three cases stemming from the same ***accident*** on March 17, 2004. Shortly after midnight, sources said, George Kukla lost control of his ***car*** on the partially snow-covered lanes of Interstate 287 north near Newark International Airport. Sources said Kukla's wife, Helena J. Kukla, was in the passenger seat and Hana Marsik and Emily Paroulek were in the rear seats. As the ***car*** fishtailed, sources said, a tractor-trailer heading north on Route 287 failed to take evasive action and hit the ***car***.Sources said the tractor-trailer was owned by Pablo J. Asson, doing business as Argentina Trucking, and was pulling a trailer owned by E&P Logistics. The trailer was operated by a driver using the fictitious name Miguel Martinez, sources said.Paroulek died at the scene, sources said, and Marsik needed immediate surgery to insert a chest tube for a collapsed right lung. Sources said she also sustained multiple rib fractures, a right scapula fracture, a fractured right shoulder and multiple spine fractures. Later, sources said, she was diagnosed with adjustment disorder and sought psychiatric treatment. Helena Kukla was admitted to the hospital with traumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage, a right third nerve palsy and concussion resulting in post-traumatic amnesia and cognitive deficits, sources said.The three lawsuits that comprised this case were filed in the Morris County, N.J., Superior Court on Aug. 10, 2003.

**Other:** Sources said the three cases were Hana Marsik and Jiri Marsik v. George Kukla, Miguel Martinez, Pablo J. Asson, d/b/a Argentina Trucking and E&P Logistics Inc.; Helena J. Kukla v. George Kukla, Miguel Martinez, Pablo J. Asson, d/b/a Argentina Trucking and E&P Logistics Inc.; and Tomas Korensky and Margaret Korensky Pages as executors of the Estate of Emily Paroulek, deceased, v. George Kukla, Miguel Martinez, Pablo J. Asson, d/b/a Argentina Trucking and E&P Logistics Inc.Sources said George Kukla had primary insurance coverage through State Farm Insurance Co., which paid $300,000, and secondary coverage through Travelers Insurance Co., which will pay $500,000; E&P's carrier, Transguard Insurance Co., will pay $400,000.Tomas Korensky and Margaret Korensky Pages are the adult children of Emily Paroulek. Jiri Marsik is Hana Marsik's husband.

**Defense:** Allegations denied.

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