# [***Jill Yucius-Retz v. Giovam Venturi; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 1412***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4MFB-NB30-0223-Y21W-00000-00&context=)

SSX-L-723-04

Nov. 8, 2006

**Headline:** Jury Awards New Jersey Woman $1.33 Million After Auto ***Accident*** In Front of Parents' Home

**Result:** $1,330,513 plaintiff verdict ($1.25 million jury award, $80,513 prejudgment interest)

**Injury:** Neck, back and rotator cuff injuries

**Court:** N.J. Super., Sussex Co.

**Judge:** James Farber

**Plaintiff Profile**

Jill Yucius-Retz

**Defendant Profile**

Giovam Venturi

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Andrew Fraser and Lauren McFadden, Laddey, Clark & Ryan, Sparta, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

James Colavito, Lustbander, Philip & David Law Office, Livingston, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Auto negligence

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that in 2003, Jill Yucius-Retz was turning right into her parents' driveway on Statesville Quarry Road in Lafayette, N.J., when she was struck on the passenger side by a pickup truck driven by Giovam Venturi. The force of the crash sent Yucius-Retz's ***car*** 80 feet into a ditch, sources said.Sources said Yucius-Retz suffered neck, back and rotator cuff injuries and underwent double fusion surgery as well as shoulder surgery. As a result of the ***accident***, Yucius-Retz, a school teacher and now 27, can no longer sit or stand for too long or lift heavy objects.Yucius-Retz sued Venturi on Dec. 20, 2004, in the Sussex County, N.J., Superior Court.

**Other:** Sources said the jury deliberated three hours and found Venturi 100 percent liable.Venturi was insured by Travelers Insurance Co., which paid the jury award and prejudgment interest, sources said .

**Defense:** Negligence denied; comparative negligence

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

James W. Dwyer, M.D., orthopedist, Somerset, N.J. Seth Ersner-Hershfield, Ph.D., psychologist, Newton, N.J

**Defendant Expert(s)**

Francis DeLuca, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, Summit, N.J. Harvey Hammer, Ph.D., New York Melvin Vigman, M.D., neurologist, Summit

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LexisNexis Jury Verdicts and Settlement Report

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