# [***Joseph P. Valentini, et al. v. Ford Motor Co; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 234***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4KGP-G440-0223-Y0GD-00000-00&context=)

97-3365

Jan. 17, 2006

**Headline:** New Jersey Federal Judge Orders Ford To Pay Injured Motorist $10 Million

**Result:** $10 million

**Court:** D. N.J.

**Judge:** Jose L. Linares

**Plaintiff Profile**

Joseph P. Valentini Jr., as guardian for Kimberly D. Valentini

**Defendant Profile**

Ford Motor Co

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Jeffrey W. Moryan and John P. Lacey, Connell Foley, Roseland, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

James S. Dobis, Dobis Russell & Peterson, Livingston, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Design defect

**Background:** Kimberly Valentini suffered from serious injuries after she was involved in a ***car*** ***accident***. Valentini was driving a 1987 Ford Bronco II at the time of the ***accident***. Valentini has incurred more than $1.5 million in medical expenses.The case went to trial against Ford Motor Co. before the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

**Other:** A jury awarded Valentini more than $20.5 million in damages on Dec. 23, 2005. The breakdown of the award is as follows: $1,513,327 for past medical and rehabilitation expenses; $13 million for future medical expenses; $300,000 for lost income; $700,000 for future lost income; $5 million for pain and suffering.The jury answered yes to the following questions: the Ford Bronco contained a design defect; the defect was the proximate cause of the alleged damages; Ford provided inadequate warning of the specific rollover hazard presented by the Ford Bronco; and the inadequate warning constituted a proximate cause of Valentini.Sources said the jury deliberated for approximately seven hours. Sources said the trial lasted five days. An appeal is not expected, the sources added.

**Defense:** Sources told Mealey Publications that the defense argued that the vehicle did not contain design defects, that the company provided adequate warnings and that the actual damages were less than the damages sought by Valentini.

**Key Related Documents**

Verdict sheet available.Document #99-060717-299V.

Order on damages available.Document #99-060717-298R.

Jury notes, eight and nine available.Document #99-060717-297X.

Jury notes, one through seven available.Document #99-060717-296X.

Trial exhibit list available.Document #99-060717-295X.

Nov. 23, 2005, order denying motions in limine available.Document #99-060717-294R.

Motion in limine to exclude the opinions of David J. Bilek available.Document #99-060717-293M.

Opposition.Document #99-060717-292M.

Affidavit of Bilek in opposition to Ford's motion to bar testimony available.Document #99-060717-291X.

Reply available.Document #99-060717-290M.

Motion in limine to exclude evidence and argument regarding multiple-steer, tip up testing by Ford available.Document #99-060717-289M.

Order on summary judgment available.Document #99-060717-288R.

Motion for summary judgment available.Document #99-060717-287R.

Exhibits A-E available.Document #99-060717-286X.

Final pretrial order available.Document #99-060717-285R.

Part II, joint pretrial order available.Document #99-060717-284X.

Part III, joint pretrial order available.Document #99-060717-283X.

Order denying request to amend complaint available.Document #99-060717-282R.

Motion to amend available.Document #99-060717-281M.

Support brief available.Document #99-060717-280M.

Opposition available.Document #99-060717-279M.

Reply available.Document #99-060717-278M.

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