# [***Laura Burnham v. Charles Tozzi, et al; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 1403***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4MFB-NB30-0223-Y21H-00000-00&context=)

HUD-L-6537-04

Nov. 2, 2006

**Headline:** $375,000 Settlement For New Jersey Woman Permanently Disabled After ***Car*** ***Accident***

**Result:** $375,000 settlement

**Court:** N.J. Super., Hudson Co.

**Judge:** Joseph Scancarella

**Plaintiff Profile**

Laura Burnham

**Defendant Profile**

Charles Tozzi, Doms Empty Package Supplies Inc

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Jeffrey Hasson, Jeffrey Hasson Law Offices, Teaneck, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

John Leith, Mattson, Madden & Leith, Millburn, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Negligence; economic loss because of permanent injuries

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that on Jan. 17, 2003, Charles Tozzi was driving a truck owned by Doms Empty Package Supplies Inc. when he backed into a ***car*** driven by Laura Burnham in the parking lot of the Bayonne ShopRite supermarket. Tozzi claimed that he had his hazard lights on while backing out of his parking spot and that Burnham didn't see him, sources said.Burnham suffered injuries including a bulging disc at C5-C6 and a herniation at L5-S1, sources said. Sources said she underwent epidural injections in both areas and had an endoscopic discectomy on her back, but she continues to suffer pain, stiffness and loss of mobility.As a result of the ***accident***, sources said, Burnham was forced to give up her job as a hairdresser and a position in customer service for a telemarketer, which she took after the ***accident***, because both were found to be too strenuous. Sources said Burnham is now on permanent Social Security disability.Burnham sued Tozzi on Dec. 20, 2004, in the Hudson County, N.J., Superior Court.

**Other:** Sources said Doms' liability insurance carrier, Progressive Insurance, will pay the settlement.

**Defense:** Allegations denied; disputed the nature of injuries and economic losses.

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

Frank D. Tinari, Ph.D., economist, Livingston, N.J. Richard Kaul, M.D., surgeon, Convent Station, N.J., were scheduled to testify if the case had gone to trial

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