# [***Mark Pisciotta v. Rajesh Patel, Juan Vargas; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 1407***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4MFB-NB30-0223-Y21N-00000-00&context=)

MID-L-141-04

Nov. 9, 2006

**Headline:** Jury Awards $150,000 To New Jersey Man Injured After 2 Auto ***Accidents***

**Result:** $150,000 plaintiff verdict

**Injury:** L5-S1 herniation (suffered a re-aggravation in the second ***accident***)

**Court:** N.J. Super., Middlesex Co.

**Judge:** Phillip Paley

**Plaintiff Profile**

Mark Pisciotta

**Defendant Profile**

Rajesh Patel, Juan Vargas

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Lawrence Lebrocq, Burns, Lebrocq, Wolfe and Associates, Woodbridge

**Defendant Counsel**

For Vargas - Michael K. McCaffrey, Hardin, Kundla, McKeon & Poletto, Springfield, N.J.; for Patel - George C. Roselle III, Lamb, Hartung, Kretzer, Reinman & Depascale, Jersey City, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Auto negligence

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that this was a consolidation of two cases dealing with auto ***accidents*** involving Mark Pisciotta.On March 18, 2002, sources said Pisciotta's ***car*** was struck on the left front vendor when Juan Vargas attempted to make an illegal left-hand turn on Smith Street in Woodbridge, N.J. Sources said that as a result of the ***accident***, Pisciotta struck his head on the steering wheel and suffered a herniation of the L5-S1. Pisciotta underwent nine months of chiropractic treatment, sources said.Then on July 16, 2002, sources said Pisciotta's ***car*** was nearly struck by a vehicle driven by Rajesh Patel, as it attempted left turn into a gas station on Stilton Road in Woodbridge. Sources said Pisciotta hit the brakes and just touched Patel's ***car***. The sudden stopping, sources said, caused a re-aggravation of the injuries suffered in the Vargas ***accident***.Pisciotta sued Patel and Vargas on Jan. 9, 2004, in the Middlesex County, N.J., Superior Court.

**Other:** Sources said the trial lasted five days, and the jury deliberated two hours and 40 minutes.Sources said that both defendants were found 100 percent liable for the ***accidents*** but that because Vargas caused the first ***accident*** and found to be the sole contributor to Pisciotta's injuries, he is responsible for payment of the $150,000 jury verdict.

**Defense:** Allegations denied.

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

A.J. Rubano, chiropractor, Edison, N.J. Michael Gruber, M.D., neurologist, South Plainfield, N.J. Lawrence Tannebaum, M.D., neurologist, Edison

**Defendant Expert(s)**

Erin Elmore, neurologist, West Orange, N.J. Douglas Noble, neurologist, Oradell, N.J. Francis DeLuca, orthopedic surgeon, Summit, N.J

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LexisNexis Jury Verdicts and Settlement Report

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