# [***Norman Wright and Nancy Wright v. Mark Watson; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 346***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4KN6-BK60-0223-Y0MR-00000-00&context=)

03-03930

March 8, 2006

**Headline:** Jury Unanimously Rejects Couple s Claim Of Auto ***Accident*** Causing Permanent Injuries

**Result:** Defense verdict

**Court:** D. N.J.

**Judge:** Ann Marie Donio

**Plaintiff Profile**

Norman Wright and Nancy Wright

**Defendant Profile**

Mark Watson

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Michael N. Borish, Law Offices of Bernard M. Gross, Philadelphia

**Defendant Counsel**

Daniel James Distasi, Green, Lundgren & Ryan, Cherry Hill, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Negligence under the Limitation of Lawsuit Threshold statute

**Background:** Norman Wright and Nancy Wright were traveling in a ***car*** that was struck by a van driven by Mark Watson. Mark Watson did not contest the liability of the ***accident***. The pair alleged that the impact of the collision caused Norman Wright s left shoulder to strike the driver s side window and Nancy Wright s lower left leg to become lodged under the center console in the front seat area of their ***car***. Among the other injuries allegedly suffered by Norman Wright were aggravation to carpal tunnel syndrome in right hand; cervical posterior compartment syndrome with flexion/extension injury; impingement of pinched nerve in neck; right leg radicular symptoms; cervical strain and sprain; bilateral trapezius myositis; impingement syndrome, bursitis of the right shoulder; lumbar sprain and a post-traumatic anxiety state. Nancy Wright said she sustained the following injuries: contusion and hematoma of the lower left leg; herniated disc; lumbar strain and sprain; cervical strain and sprain; strain and sprain of the right and left trapezius muscles; bursitis of the left shoulder; contusion and sprain of the right shoulder and post-traumatic anxiety state. The Wrights sued Watson in U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey on April 19, 2003.

**Other:** The verdict was unanimous. Because of the ***accident***, Norman Wright said he went through five months of physical therapy and has greater difficulty performing his job as a painter and paperhanger. Nancy Wright said she endured four months of physical therapy and still suffers from constant pain in her lower leg.

**Defense:** Allegations denied. Claims of this ***accident*** causing all of Norman Wright s injuries are denied. Both Norman and Nancy Wright had pre-existing medical conditions, and Norman Wright suffered a ***car*** ***accident*** two years before where he sustained multiple injuries.

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

Dr. Maxwell Stepanuk Jr., orthopedic surgery, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Defendant Expert(s)**

Dr. Gary Neil Goldstein, general medicine, Philadelphia

**Key Related Documents**

Judgment available.Document #99-060731-226A.

Jury instructions available.Document #99-060731-227J.

Jury verdict sheet available.Document #99-060731-228V.

Plaintiff s trial brief available.Document #99-060731-229B.

Plaintiff s proposed Voir Dire available.Document #99-060731-230M.

Order granting motion to correct pretrial motion to add expert witness reports available.Document #99-060731-231R.

Brief in opposition to correct pretrial motion to add expert witness reports available.Document #99-060731-232B.

Motion to correct pretrial order to add expert witness reports available.Document #99-060731-233M.

Defendant s answer to complaint available.Document #99-060731-234M.

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