# [***Sophia Jenicek v. Michael Hobin; 2006 Mealey's Jury Verdicts & Settlements 1570***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=jury-verdicts-settlements&id=urn:contentItem:4MM2-3RR0-0223-Y27K-00000-00&context=)

BER-L-8664-04

Dec. 5, 2006

**Headline:** New Jersey Auto ***Accident*** Settles For $900,000 The Day Before Trial To Begin

**Result:** $900,000 settlement ($750,000 cash up front, with $150,000 going into a trust with the plaintiff receiving monthly payments of $807.86 per month beginning Feb. 15, 2010)

**Injury:** Herniated discs at C6-C7, L5-S1 and torn knee cartilage.

**Court:** N.J. Super., Bergen Co.

**Judge:** William DeLorenzo Jr.

**Plaintiff Profile**

Sophia Jenicek

**Defendant Profile**

Michael Hobin

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Bertram Siegal, Todd Siegal, Siegal & Siegal, Teaneck, N.J

**Defendant Counsel**

Robert Haines, Stevens & Schwab, Secaucus, N.J

**Case Summary**

**Claim:** Auto negligence

**Background:** Sources told Mealey Publications that on Aug. 19, 2002, Sophia Jenicek was stopped in traffic on Polifly Road in Hackensack, when she was rear-ended. A ***car*** driven by Michael Hobin, sources said, hit the ***car*** in front him, which in turn struck Jenicek's ***car***, causing herniated discs at C6-C7, L5-S1 and torn knee cartilage.Jenicek, sources said, had a lower back diskectomy, disk fusion surgery, insertion of hardware in her back to stabilize and arthroscopic surgery on her knee. Sources said that for a year after the surgery, Jenicek wore a bone stimulator on her lower back in an attempt promote growth of muscle and tissues onto the hardware.Once an active person, sources said, Jenicek is in constant pain and cannot, among other things, lift heavy objects and has trouble walking on stairs. Sources said she is currently on temporary disability from her job as an office manager and has applied for permanent disability.Jenicek sued Hobin on Jan. 12, 2004, in the Bergen County Superior Court.

**Other:** Initially, sources said, Jenicek sued Hobin's employer, Sorbent Products, which had leased the ***car*** he was driving, but the claim was dismissed because Hobin was not on company business at the time of the ***accident***.Sources said that Sorbent's insurance carrier, AIG, will pay the settlement and that the $150,000 is projected to be $444,320 over the course of Jenicek's life.

**Defense:** Allegations denied

**Plaintiff Expert(s)**

Thomas Peterson, M.D., surgeon, Hackensack, N.J. Robert Brady, M.D., pain specialist, East Rutherford, N.J. Jen Lee, M.D., orthopedist, Englewood, N.J. Ken Ermann, D.O., chiropractor, Teaneck, N.J. (expected to be called if case had gone to trial)

**Defendant Expert(s)**

David Greifinger, M.D., orthopedist, Bellville, N.J. (expected to be called if case had gone to trial)

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LexisNexis Jury Verdicts and Settlement Report

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