



STEVEN H. KRUIS, ESQ.
Representative Cases
Personal Injury / Wrongful Death

- Dispute involving pesticide poisoning of plaintiff by overspray of insecticide while helicopter was spraying lime grove adjacent to plaintiff's home that allegedly caused her to become permanently disabled. Case involved numerous medical and psychiatric issues of causation, injuries, and damages.
- Dispute involving traumatic brain injury of plaintiff who was negligently run over in crosswalk by van. The defense argued comparative negligence as plaintiff was talking on her cell phone at the time of the accident. The degree of plaintiff's permanent cognitive impairment was vigorously contested.
- Dispute involving wrongful death of police officer while on patrol when his police cruiser was fatally struck by semi-truck that ran stop sign at intersection to highway. Defense claimed that the truck driver suffered a heart attack immediately before running the stop sign. Economists differed significantly on the amount of damages attributable to loss of support for surviving spouse and children.
- Dispute involving premises liability case stemming from plaintiff slipping on liquid in store while holding a fifteen-pound bag of dog food allegedly causing a severe case of piriformis syndrome. Issues included liability, comparative negligence, extent of physical injury, and spoliation of evidence as surveillance video was apparently lost.
- Dispute involving two minor plaintiffs allegedly exposed to mold-infested environment when living in apartment. Plaintiffs claimed they became "sensitized" due to long-term exposure to amplified mycotoxins and dust mites thereby developing permanent allergies requiring life-long treatment.
- Dispute involving premises liability claim against governmental entity bases upon plaintiff's trip and fall on sidewalk that was deflected by tree roots. City brought cross-complaint against adjacent property owner for allowing tree roots to deflect sidewalk. Issues included liability, comparative negligence, allocation of liability between city and property owner, plaintiff's reasonable and necessary medical treatment, and level of plaintiff's permanent impairment.
- Dispute involving motor vehicle accident on freeway causing chain collision of five vehicles ultimately injuring plaintiff. Issues included extent and value of plaintiff's injuries as well as

allocation of fault between four defendant drivers and contributions by their respective insurance carriers.

- Dispute involving product liability claim against boat manufacturer based upon loss of plaintiff's leg that was severed by boat prop. Defendant raised numerous defenses, including fact that driver of boat, who had been criminally prosecuted for operating the boat while intoxicated, was the sole cause of the injury.
- Dispute involving motor vehicle collision in which plaintiff's vehicle was rear-impacted by van driven by defendant causing plaintiff to sustained minor, soft-tissue injuries. Several weeks later, plaintiff became dizzy and fell in the shower sustaining more serious injuries. Plaintiff alleged that the medication from the first injury was a substantial factor in causing the second injury. Issues included causation, extent of physical injuries, and amount of worker compensation lien as worker comp carrier had interpleaded.
- Dispute involving claim based upon toxic substance exposure stemming from application of insecticide by licensed pest-control operator to treat termite infestation of plaintiff's home. Issues included causation and the extent of plaintiff's physical injuries.