The Indiana Jury Verdict Reporter

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Statewide Jury Verdict Coverage

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December 2025

Civil Jury Verdicts

Timely coverage of civil jury verdicts in Indiana including court, division, presiding judge, parties, cause number, attorneys and results. Medical Malpractice - The plaintiff, an elderly retired cardiothoracic surgeon, was admitted to the hospital for treatment of deep vein thrombosis; when the plaintiff developed a massive intracranial hemorrhage and died after the treatment, his estate blamed his death on the failure of his treating cardiologist to manage the plaintiff's blood pressure despite knowing the plaintiff was at an increased risk of bleeding

Estate of Hadidian v. Llobet, 45D01-2104-CT-320

Plaintiff: Robert F. Parker and Kayla E. Davis, *Burke Costanza & Carberry, LLP.*, Merrillville

Defense: Gregory A. Crisman and Allison E. Pulliam, *Eichhorn & Eichhorn*, *LLP.*, Hammond

Verdict: Defense verdict on liability

County: Lake, Superior Judge: John M. Sedia, 10-23-25

In January of 2019, Henry Hadidian was an 83 year-old retired cardiothoracic surgeon living in Munster. On 1-3-19, Hadidian was admitted to Community Hospital in Munster with a diagnosis of deep vein thrombosis (i.e., "DVT"). Hadidian was under the care of Dr. P. Ramon Llobet, an interventional cardiologist.

During Hadidian's stay at the hospital, Dr. Llobet performed several procedures on him. The last one was a stenting procedure that took place on 1-7-19. Following that procedure Hadidian developed a massive intracranial hemorrhage

that left him with no hope of recovering. Life support was withdrawn, and he died the next day on 1-8-19.

Hadidian's estate presented the matter to a medical review panel comprised of three interventional cardiologists. They were Dr. Christopher Hofelich of Jeffersonville, Dr. Kingsley Annan of Kokomo, and Dr. W. Philip Casino of Evansville.

According to the estate, Hadidian repeatedly developed significant hypertension during his time in the hospital, but Dr. Llobet did not properly treat that condition and he continued with the stenting procedure in spite of it. Additionally, Dr. Llobet prescribed anti-coagulant therapy without taking steps to reduce the risk of bleeding.

The estate also accused Dr. Llobet of failing to provide adequate post-procedure care and not timely responding to calls from the hospital staff that was monitoring Hadidian. This cascade of errors, the estate argued, led ultimately to Hadidian's death.

The medical review panel issued the unanimous opinion that Dr. Llobet's treatment of Hadidian did not constitute a breach of the applicable standard of care. The estate filed suit on the grounds outlined above and targeted both Dr. Llobet and Community Hospital.

The estate ultimately stipulated to the dismissal of Community Hospital. The litigation proceeded Underinsured Motorist - After being injured in a crash with an underinsured driver, husband and wife plaintiffs sought damages from the tortfeasor as well as their own UIM carrier; plaintiffs settled with the tortfeasor and continued the litigation on the UIM claim – the case was interesting, the husband complaining of a permanent emotional injury (PTSD and anxiety) which led he and his wife (together happily for 17 years previously) divorcing soon after the collision

Fields v. State Farm, 89C01-2007-CT-36

Plaintiff: Theresa L.D. Ebbs and Robert H. Ebbs, *Glaser & Ebbs*,

Indianapolis

Defense: Benjamin G. Stevenson, *Threlkeld Stevenson*, Indianapolis Verdict: \$992,600 for plaintiffs (allocated \$900,000 to Arthur Fields, Jr. and \$92,600 to Patricia Fields) County: **Wayne**, Circuit Judge: April R. Drake, 11-14-25

On 7-3-18, Macey McKnight, a teenager, was driving a vehicle owned by Miranda Young. At the same time, Arthur Fields, Jr. was driving nearby in a vehicle in which his wife, Patricia Fields, was riding as a passenger. At the intersection of West Main Street and Southwest 8th Street in Richmond, the two vehicles collided in a near head-on collision. McKnight was solely at fault.

Arthur's initial physical injuries after the collision were generalized body aches and a leg hematoma. This bothered him for a year or so. His more persistent injury was emotional. Arthur, a truck driver by trade, developed PTSD, generalized anxiety and a major depressive order.

A retained expert, Polly Westcott,

Neuropsychology, Carmel, testified live at trial about his emotional injuries. He manages his symptoms with medication. Arthur has repeatedly denied counseling. Westcott testified the emotional injury is chronic and based on Arthur's personality profile, he is not the sort to seek counseling and open up about his mental health issues. This was contrasted with his pre-wreck personality where Arthur was described as happy-go-lucky, funny and outgoing.

Patricia was hurt too. Her primary injury was the aggravation of preexisting arthritis in his knee. Her treating orthopedist, Dr. David Graybill, described it as severe. Before the crash she had occasional pain, but six months after the crash it significant enough she reported it was sometimes difficult to get up from the toilet. While Graybill has recommended a knee replacement surgery, Patricia (who was studying to be a nurse practitioner) opted against a surgery as she was eager to graduate and being her practice. Since an initial course of care (several pain injections in her knee), she's since had very little treatment or followup.

There was an interesting aside in this case. While they had been a couple for 17 years (married for four) at the time of the crash and their relationship was described as a loving one, the wreck changed this. Patricia filed for divorce three months later and cited Arthur's radical personality change and his having completely left the relationship emotionally. The divorce was final four months later.

The Fieldses filed suit against McKnight and Young. Plaintiffs blamed McKnight for causing the crash, and they targeted Young on a theory of negligent entrustment. Additionally, plaintiffs presented an underinsured motorist claim against State Farm as well as against Erie Insurance.

Plaintiffs later settled with McKnight and Young for their policy limits of \$25,000 and dismissed them from the case. The litigation continued on the UIM claims against State Farm and Erie Insurance. Plaintiffs' UIM coverage limits with each insurer were \$100,000 per person. Erie (defended by Rebecca J. Maas, Fisher Maas Howard Lloyd & Wheeler, Indianapolis) elected to be bound by the verdict and did not appear at trial.

For all outward appearances, then, the case proceeded against solely State Farm. Erie's name was removed from all pleadings the jury might see. The jury did not know the policy limits. The parties stipulated that McKnight had been 100% at fault for the crash, but State Farm continue to dispute the nature and extent of plaintiffs' claimed injuries and damages. As to Arthur it argued that his emotional symptoms were related not to this crash, but instead to the divorce and other life stressors at the time including the death of his mother.

Liability having been stipulated, the case was tried in Richmond only on the issue of damages. Arthur's counsel asked for an award of \$1.34 million – the prayer for Patricia was \$365,000. The jury returned a verdict for plaintiffs and awarded damages of \$900,000 to Arthur and another \$92,600 to Patricia. That brought plaintiffs' combined verdict to \$992,600.

No final judgment has been entered in the case. The parties agree

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