

# The Mississippi Jury Verdict Reporter

The Most Current and Complete Summary of Mississippi Jury Verdicts

October 2024

Statewide Jury Verdict Coverage

15 MSJVR 10

---

## In This Issue

### Hinds County

Medical Malpractice - \$500,000 p. 4

### Claiborne County

Truck Negligence - \$1,050,000 p. 1

### Pike County

Premises Liability - Defense verdict p. 3

### Jackson County

Alienation of Affection - Defense verdict p. 6

### Simpson County

Auto Negligence - \$25,000 p. 7

### Notable Tennessee Verdict

*Memphis, Tennessee*

General Negligence - \$13,987,974 p. 9

---

## Civil Jury Verdicts

Timely coverage of civil jury verdicts in Mississippi including court, division, presiding judge, parties, case number, attorneys and results. Notable results from the southern region, including Memphis and New Orleans, are also covered.

**Truck Negligence - The plaintiff (an Alcorn State professor), a passenger in a Honda sedan, suffered serious and disabling injuries (multiple fractures and a TBI) when his driver crashed into a tractor-trailer that pulled from a gas station and into the vehicle's path – the jury awarded damages of \$1.05 million and assessed the fault 90% to the plaintiff's settled driver and just 10% to the tortfeasor trucker**

*Xia v. KD Enterprises*, 19-91

Plaintiff: Quinton E. Thompson and Ryan Skertich, Memphis, TN and Rocky Wilkins and Paul V. Ott, Jackson, all of *Morgan & Morgan*  
Defense: Mark C. Carroll, Thomas G. Bufkin and M. Brady Mitchell, *Carroll Bufkin*, Ridgeland

Verdict: \$1,050,000 for plaintiff less 90% comparative fault

Court: **Claiborne**

Judge: Tomika Harris-Irving

Date: 8-29-24

Qun Xia, then age 67 and a biotechnology professor at Alcorn State, traveled on the early evening of 3-9-17 with a colleague, Yong Wang. Wang was driving a 2012 Honda Accord and proceeded northbound on Hwy 61 in Claiborne County a half-mile north of the Natchez Parkway. Near this location is the Traceway Shell gas station.

It was near dusk (or just after sunset) near 7:30 in the evening. At the same time, Derrick Savage, was operating a logging truck (it was loaded with timber) for KD Enterprises. He pulled slowly from the gas station and was heading

south on Hwy 61. There was proof he was traveling at 15 mph or so as he entered the highway. Savage did so into the path of the Wang Honda. Wang was traveling at approximately 55 mph.

Wang did not appreciate the truck was turning into his path. He crashed hard into the logging trailer. It was a catastrophic impact and the Honda suffered significant damage.

Xia was seriously injured in the crash. He suffered a disabling traumatic brain injury. Xia also suffered multiple fractures including to his elbow, forearm, rib, left index finger, heel as well as C-5 fracture and an L-5 compression fracture. Xia first underwent a course of comprehensive rehabilitation.

There was proof that Xia is permanently disabled and requires personal care everyday. His medical bills were \$421,938. A plaintiff's expert, Dr. Howard Katz, Physical Medicine, Jackson, described Xia's injuries. His future care was quantified from a low of \$443,000 to a high of \$2.9 million by a life care plan expert, Dana Weldon, Windsor, Ontario. He also sought sums for lost wages (stipulated at \$592,000) as well as non-economic damages in four categories, pain and suffering, mental distress and future disability/impairment. His wife (Xuili Yang) also presented a derivative consortium claim.

In this lawsuit Xia and his wife sought damages from Savage and his employer. His theory was simple enough. The slow-moving trucker

**Auto Negligence - The plaintiff complained of neck, back and shoulder pain after a moderate right-of-way collision – a Mendenhall jury made a general award to the plaintiff of \$25,000 which was 2.43 times the plaintiff's medical bills**

*Palmer v. Wade*, 23-268

Plaintiff: Daniel D. Ware, *Ware Law Firm*, Magee

Defense: Trace D. McRaney, *Dukes Keating Hatten McRaney Blum*, Gulfport

Verdict: \$25,000 for plaintiff

Court: **Simpson**

Judge: Stanley Sorey

Date: 9-10-24

John Palmer, then age 62, traveled on U.S. 49 in Mendenhall on 2-6-23. A moment later Chasidy Wade attempted to cross the highway. As Wade pulled from a stop sign, she struck the passenger side of Palmer's pick-up truck. The collision resulted in minor damage.

Palmer has since treated for several injuries. They included neck and back pain as well as the aggravation of a degenerative shoulder condition. An MRI was taken and it identified a full thickness rotator cuff tear.

Palmer's treating physician, Dr. Gregory Bredemeier, confirmed the injuries. He also described causation and testified the collision aggravated the pre-existing degenerative shoulder condition. However he indicated Palmer was not a candidate for a surgical repair. Palmer's medical bills were \$10,255.

In this lawsuit Palmer sought damages from Wade. As the trial approached, she conceded fault for the collision. Thus her defense focused on minimizing the claimed injury. In that regard she noted, (1) Palmer's history of degenerative



*The Palmer vehicle damage*

conditions and the minor vehicle damage.

This case was tried in a single day in Mendenhall. The jury returned a handwritten verdict. It was for Palmer for \$25,000. A consistent judgment was entered for the plaintiff.

**Case Documents:**

[Complaint](#)

[Jury Verdict](#)

[Final Judgment](#)