

The South Carolina Jury Verdict Reporter

The Most Current and Complete Summary of South Carolina Jury Verdicts

March 2026

Statewide Jury Verdict Coverage

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Civil Jury Verdicts

Timely coverage of civil jury verdicts in South Carolina including court, presiding judge, parties, attorneys and results, also including settlement reports and notable recent civil complaints filed.

Medical Malpractice - The plaintiff died of a pulmonary embolus at a rehabilitation hospital just two days after leaving a hospital after a spinal surgery – the estate blamed his orthopedist and a PA for failing to coordinate DVT prophylactic care with the rehabilitation hospital to prevent the known embolic risk related to the decedent’s immobility – a Spartanburg jury awarded the estate \$6,000,000 (\$3,000,000 for each adult daughter) and also found the defendants acted with gross negligence – new trial motions were denied and the case is now on appeal

Jefferies v. Lim et al,
2020-CP-42-002169

Plaintiff: Gerald D. Jowers and Kenneth M. Suggs, *Janet Janet & Suggs*, Columbia and Luther J. Battiste, III, *Johnson Toal & Battiste*, Columbia

Defense: Ashby W. Davis and Ryan J. Ginty, *Davis & Snyder*, Greenville

Verdict: \$6,000,000 for plaintiffs

Court: **Spartanburg**

Judge: Grace D. Knie

Date: 6-6-25

Albert Jefferies, then age 72 and both a retired Navy veteran and postal employee, underwent a

laminectomy revision surgery on 7-18-18 at Spartanburg Medical Center. It was uneventful. However he was at risk of developing blood clots in the post-operative period. This was especially so as he had limited mobility. Dr. Chi Hun Lim, an orthopedist on his team and a physician assistant, Megan Nicholas, were managing the risk of deep venous thrombosis (DVT) complications. That involved a variety of prophylactic treatments including mechanical clot protection.

Over the next week (7-18-18 to 7-26-18), Jefferies continued to have limited mobility which was unexpected. In response to this, Nicholas added heparin (an anti-coagulant) as additional clot protection. Jefferies was discharged on 7-26-18 to a rehabilitation hospital, Peachtree Center.

Lim stopped the clot protection at

the rehabilitation hospital. This was both his and the physician assistant’s standard practice. They also failed to communicate with staff at Peachtree Center about the DVT risk or ongoing prophylactic care. Jefferies did not receive such treatment. Two days later Jefferies was dead of a pulmonary embolus. He was survived by his two adult daughters, one a nurse and the other a healthcare administrator.

One daughter (Angela Allen) as executor of the estate, filed this lawsuit against a variety of defendants. There were two named ones that survived to trial, Kim and Nicholas. They also pursued damages against Carolina Orthopedics and Neurological Associates (CONA) as the employer of Kim and Nicholas.

The alleged malpractice was that Lim and Nicholas had a duty to continue the clot protection until the risk of embolus had passed. At the

Andres Allen, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Albert Charles Jefferies, deceased, Plaintiff,
vs.
Chi Hun Lim, M.D., Megan Nicholas, P.A., and Carolina Orthopedic and Neurological Associates ASC, LLC, Defendants.

Civil Action No.: 2020-CP-42-0169

VERDICT

We the jury unanimously find as follows:

1. Did Chi Hun Lim, M.D., deviate from the standard of care in the treatment of Albert Jefferies? (circle one)

YES NO

1a. Was Chi Hun Lim, M.D.’s deviation from the standard of care a proximate cause of the death of Albert Jefferies? (if you answered “YES” to question 1, circle one)

YES NO

2. Did Megan Nicholas, P.A., deviate from the standard of care in the treatment of Albert Jefferies? (circle one)

YES NO

2a. Was Megan Nicholas, P.A.’s deviation from the standard of care a proximate cause of the death of Albert Jefferies? (if you answered “YES” to question 2, circle one)

YES NO

If you answered “YES” to questions 1a and/or 2a, complete the following:

3. We the jury award damages for the wrongful death of Albert Jefferies as follows:

Andres Allen 3 million

Michelle Hemphill 3 million

If you awarded damages in question 3, please answer the following:

4. Was Chi Hun Lim, M.D., grossly negligent with respect to his care of Albert Jefferies? (circle one)

YES NO

5. Was Megan Nicholas, P.A., grossly negligent with respect to her care of Albert Jefferies? (circle one)

YES NO

Laura Matheson
Jury Foreperson

Date: June 6, 2025

The Jefferies v. Lim jury verdict

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November 21, 2021

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Notable and Interesting Complaints

*An at-a-glance look at interesting and notable complaints recently filed in South Carolina courts
(The case number is the hyperlink to the complaint – complaints sorted by jurisdiction)*

Wrongful Death - Fatal house fire blamed on electrical wiring

Spann v. SSPP,

[2026-CP-02-00160](#)

Plaintiff: Briana Richie, *Frails & Wilson*, Augusta, GA

Date: 1-20-26

Court: **Aiken**

Dogbite - UPS driver bitten by a dog

May v. Woodlanders,

[2026-CP-02-00059](#)

Plaintiff: Dane A. Anderson, Augusta, GA

Date: 1-7-26

Court: **Aiken**

Medical Malpractice - Hospital fall results in neck fracture

Reigh v. Aiken Regional,

[2026-CP-02-00046](#)

Plaintiff: D. Nathan Hughey, *Hughey Law Firm*, Mt. Pleasant

Date: 1-7-26

Court: **Aiken**

Malicious Prosecution - Student arrested for Assault & Battery by Mob and was in jail for five days after a large fight at Allendale-Fairfax High School

Pryor v. Allendale County School District et al,

[2026-CP-03-00006](#)

Plaintiff: Chelci S. Avant, *Parker Law Group*, Hampton

Date: 1-7-26

Court: **Allendale**

School Negligence - Plaintiff tackled in a touch football game during gym class

Riley v. Allendale County School District,

[2026-CP-03-00024](#)

Plaintiff: Carson M. Alexander, *Alexander & Alexander*, Barnwell

Date: 1-27-26

Court: **Allendale**

Premises Liability - Deliveryman injured at a Dollar Tree loading dock

Dake v. Dollar Tree,

[2026-CP-04-00052](#)

Plaintiff: Robert D. Corney, *Derrick Law Firm*, Conway

Date: 1-20-26

Court: **Anderson**

Premises Liability - Slip and fall on dirty floor

Murphee v. Arnold's Famous Hamburgers,

[2026-CP-04-00203](#)

Plaintiff: J. Matthew Whitehead, *The Carolina Law Group*, Greenville

Date: 1-28-26

Court: **Anderson**

Retail Negligence - Elderly black veteran detained over a receipt without cause

DeWitt v. Wal-Mart,

[2026-CP-04-00081](#)

Plaintiff: Joshua T. Hawkins, *Hawkins & Jedzaniak*, Greenville

Date: 1-12-26

Court: **Anderson**

Elevator Negligence - Elevator malfunction at hospital injures custodial worker

Walker v. Otis Elevator,

[2026-CP-04-00037](#)

Plaintiff: Timothy A. Nowacki, *The Clardy Law Firm*, Greenville

Date: 1-7-26

Court: **Anderson**

Hospital Negligence - Family falsely accused of sexual abuse after false test indicated a child had sperm in her vagina

Holmes v. Medical University of South Carolina,

[2026-CP-05-00018](#)

Plaintiff: Skyler B. Hutto, *Williams & Williams*, Orangeburg

Date: 1-30-26

Court: **Bamberg**

Wrongful Death - Pedestrian struck and killed by a car

Brabham v. Cannon,

[2026-CP-06-00003](#)

Plaintiff: Carson M. Alexander, *Alexander & Alexander*, Barnwell

Date: 1-5-26

Court: **Barnwell**

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