



Personal Injury Attorney David Drexler Wins \$399K Settlement in Valentines Day Bus Accident Case

Law Offices of David Drexler, June 13, 2008

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Successful cases require the expertise of an attorney who limits his practice to personal injury matters. This Personal Injury lawyers in Los angles, California are your best Attorney - David Drexler.

PR9.NET June 13, 2008 - LOS ANGELES, California - On the eve of trial in a contentious Bus Accident case, Los Angeles Personal Injury Attorney David Drexler and his co-counsel, Andrew Jacobs have won a \$399K settlement for their client, Cristina Fontanella, a 30 year employee of LAX. Fontanella was a passenger on an LAX shuttle bus that rear-ended another shuttle bus and a car, injuring her and several other passengers. Despite the defense's argument that Fontanella's injuries were a pre-existing condition from her job, Personal Injury Attorney Drexler negotiated the settlement for his client in mediation before the Hon. Russell Bostrum, claiming negligence of the bus driver in the Vehicle Accident.

Fontanella, 54, a long time ticket agent at LAX was heading home at 3:40 p.m. on Valentines Day, 2005. She boarded the shuttle bus to take her to her satellite parking lot after work, but there would be no candy and flowers at the end of this ride. Instead, as the shuttle headed east-bound on Century Blvd., shuttle bus driver Gary Melvin plowed into the rear end of a Dollar Rent a Car shuttle bus, stopped at a red light in a left-hand pocket turn lane. That bus slammed into the Ford Crown Victoria cab directly in front of him causing a devastating bus accident.

The plaintiff, Fontanella, was flung backwards, slamming her down to the floor of the bus along with several other passengers who were all transported to the Daniel Freeman Hospital via ambulance. She sustained serious injury to her left shoulder and needed two carpal tunnel wrist surgeries following the bus accident. Personal injury attorney, Drexler, successfully argued against the claim by the defendant that Fontanella's injuries came from her job, hauling heavy suitcases and not from the vehicle accident.

Fontanella's claim that the bus driver's negligence caused the vehicle accident was so compelling, the plaintiff's attorneys called for a mediation before Hon. Russell Bostrum before the start of the vehicle accident trial. The two sides began far apart in negotiations. The defendant offered \$200,000 and the plaintiff reduced her demand from \$750,000 to \$600,000. As negotiations proceeded, Melvin, the bus driver, admitted liability in the bus accident.

The defendant's attorneys served Drexler's team with a C. C. P. Section 998 in the amount of \$250,000. Fonantella's team replied with a C.C.P. section 998 of their own with a compromise of \$585,000. The day before the trial, negotiations rose from \$300,000 to \$350,000, before finally settling the Bus Accident case on the \$399,000 figure on the eve of the trial.

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About Law Offices of David Drexler

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