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**REPORTED "DECISIONS"  
OMITTING CLIENTS' AND/OR  
DEFENDANTS' NAMES ARE AS A  
RESULT OF REQUESTS FOR  
ANONYMITY.**

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**JANE ROE vs.  
ABC AMBULANCE,  
XYZ HOSPITAL, ET AL**

Jane Roe was a college professor, the holder of two Masters degrees and an exceptionally bright woman in her early 40's. She spoke two foreign languages fluently and was only a few credits away from obtaining her Ph.D. One evening, she began to feel faint and called a neighbor for help. Her neighbor arrived and promptly called 911, fearful that Roe was having a heart attack. ABC Ambulance arrived to render aid. The paramedic employees of ABC completed a preliminary assessment, established IV lines and attached an EKG monitor. Shortly thereafter, Roe stopped talking and went into cardiac arrest.

ABC employees intubated Roe and transport was begun to XYZ Hospital. XYZ Hospital was unprepared for her arrival. Roe was unloaded by the paramedics from ABC Ambulance. She presented with a distended abdomen and was cyanotic, indicating clearly that a proper airway had not been established. Although the emergency room doctor noticed these conditions and realized that Roe was oxygen starved, a proper airway was not established until approximately 12 minutes after her arrival.

Miraculously, she survived. However, she is now permanently brain damaged, losing forever a promising career in the academic field. She will be forced to reside in a supervised living care facility for the remainder of her life. Her devastating injury was a direct result of failure on the part of the paramedics to establish and maintain a properly opened airway and a failure on the part of

