

Head-On Collision Takes One Life, Leaves Young Woman in Coma

While daughter clings to life, family fights for suitable settlement.

Amy Fox, of Lake Worth, age 29, and her boyfriend Jason Sanguedolce, age 27, were driving home from a late dinner following a day-trip to the Florida Keys. Jason was driving a vehicle owned by his and Amy's employer, Forest Pharmaceuticals. Another car, driven by an 18-year-old heading in the opposite direction on the same highway, crossed the centerline and crashed head-on into Amy's and Jason's car.

Jason died in the accident. Amy suffered a broken hip and pelvis and severe head trauma. She was airlifted to Jackson Memorial Hospital Intensive Care Unit where she was immediately put on a respirator to sustain her life. Amy showed some signs of spontaneous breathing and reflexive movements of her extremities, but with extensive bleeding in the frontal lobes of her brain, Amy remains in a coma. She shows no signs of voluntary movement although she continues to receive coma stimulation therapy.

The at-fault driver's insurance carriers, National Surety Corporation and Fireman's Fund Insurance, sought to settle the case with both families for \$2.01 million. Given the catastrophic nature of Amy's injuries, a settlement of this amount, to be divided among several claimants, would never be adequate to cover just Amy's medical expenses alone.

After extensive negotiation with the insurance carriers, Chris Searcy and Bill Norton from Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart and Shipley sought and received a settlement of \$2.01 million, the entire amount of insurance available in this case, solely for Amy and her parents. ■



**\$2+ Million
Settlement:**

**ENSURING
LONG-TERM CARE
FOR TRAGIC
COMA VICTIM**