Car v. Pedestrian: \$600,000 Settlement for the Pedestrian



On December 30, 2009, 68-year-old Jane Doe left her place of employment and walked toward her car. Suddenly, a car being driven through the parking lot struck

Jane, knocking her down and causing serious injury. She was taken by ambulance to a local hospital

where she was examined, preliminarily treated, and released. The examination revealed she had suffered a shattered fracture of her lateral tibial plateau. The tibial plateau is the upper surface of the tibia, or shin-bone, which is prone to fracture in high velocity accidents such as being struck by a car. In addition to the injuries directly caused by the accident, she also had to have a total knee replacement. Following surgery, she endured months of rehabilitation and physical therapy, at times confined to the use of a wheelchair, walker, or cane. Seeking recourse for her injuries, she sought representation by SDSBS attorney Brian Denney. Despite defense attempts to blame Jane Doe for not walking within a crosswalk and vigorously disputing liability, the parties reached a settlement of \$600,000 just prior to trial.