

\$8.5 million awarded for medical service's negligence, fraud, and false advertising

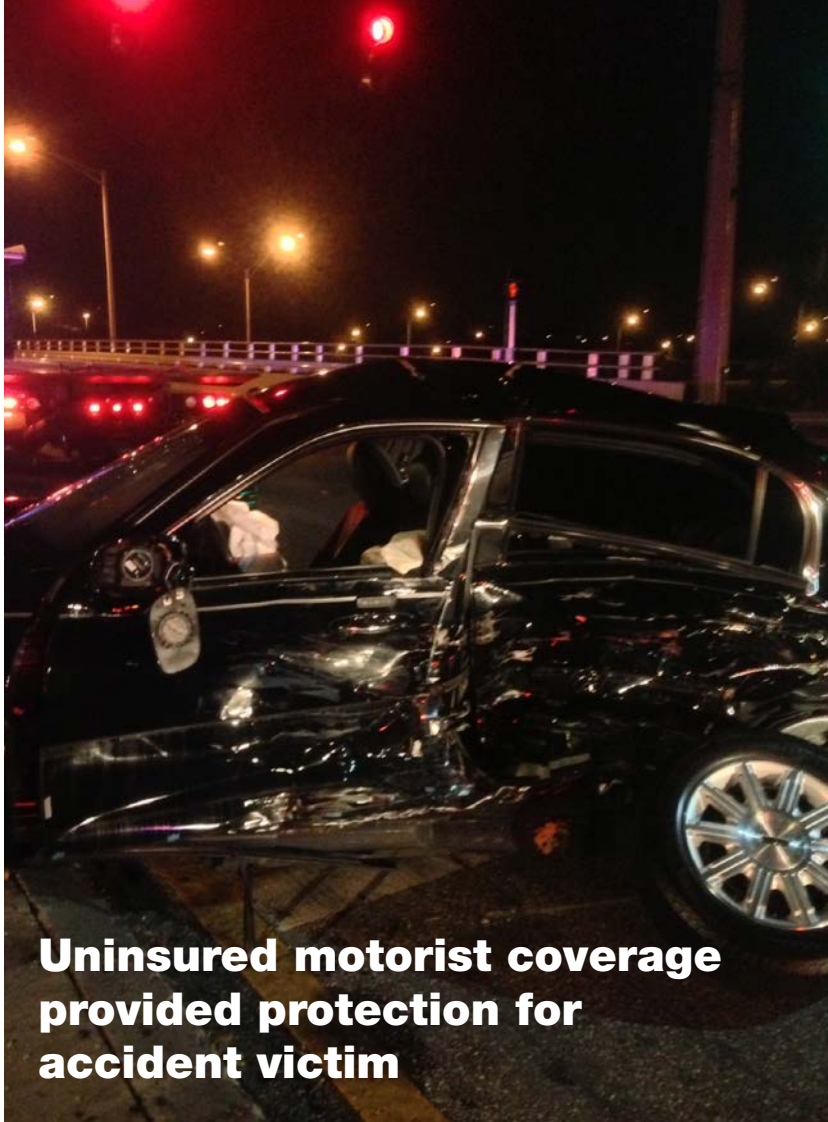
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and nursing and attendant care. Her health continued to deteriorate and in 2012 Joan died of leukemia at the age of 77. Robert was devastated by the suffering his wife of 55 years had endured because of the negligent and careless treatment provided to her by MDVIP's associates. Robert, former general counsel for W. R. Grace & Co., declined to seek damages for himself, asking only \$1 in recognition of his own loss. "It's not about him, it's about Joan, it's about their grandchildren, and about the charities they loved," said Karen Terry.

"MDVIP's very business model is at issue," added Ms. Terry. "The company convinces the public that retainer payments to a concierge ensure superior services. As this landmark case sadly demonstrates, we need to take a much more critical look at how this entire industry actually operates." Mr. Scarola stated, "MDVIP's scheme worked just like most other con games. MDVIP essentially took money for a service that did not exist and which they never intended to provide. Had Ms. Beber not been duped, she never would have suffered the tragic and traumatic injury that ensued."

MDVIP convinced the public that retainer payments to a concierge ensure superior services ... services that did not exist.

The Bebers had specifically sought membership in MDVIP because they wanted the top-rated professional, personalized, and focused medical care that MDVIP had advertised, and they were willing to pay the extra fees to obtain that care for themselves. MDVIP and its associates fraudulently took their fees and then provided totally substandard, inadequate, and untimely services. ♦



Uninsured motorist coverage provided protection for accident victim

On June 18, 2013, an impaired driver, traveling at high speed, ran a red light and crashed into a vehicle driven by Jane Jones (not her real name). Ms. Jones was driving her company's car at the time of the collision. She suffered injuries to her neck and back, and her doctors recommended surgery. Recognizing the lengthy rehabilitation and expenses she faced because of the accident, Ms. Jones and her husband asked SDSBS attorney **Brian Denney** to represent them in a legal action. Mr. Denney's investigation revealed that the impaired driver had no insurance that would cover Ms. Jones' injuries. However, Ms. Jones and her husband had purchased stacked uninsured motorist coverage on both their company car as well as their personal vehicle. They asked the insurance companies covering both cars to compensate her for the injuries caused by the collision. The insurance company covering the company car tendered its policy limits after Mr. Denney advised that he would be filing suit in Palm Beach County Circuit Court. The insurance company covering the personal car declined his request, and Mr. Denney proceeded with a lawsuit against that company under the policy's uninsured motorist provision. With a trial date approaching, the insurance company settled the case with Ms. Jones for a confidential sum. "If not for the purchase of uninsured motorist coverage, my clients would not have had any recourse for their injuries, which would have been a gross injustice. This case is proof positive that all motorists in Florida should purchase uninsured motorist coverage," said Mr. Denney. For further information on the subject, Mr. Denney produced a video in which he discusses how insurance impacts litigation. The video may be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pX1IfcounqI> ♦