

Local jury awards money to trucker

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HAMMOND -- A Lake County Superior Court jury has awarded \$422,000 to a Florida truck driver for injuries he suffered in an accident.

Hammond lawyer David Holub said his client, Julian Pendleton of St. Mary, Fla., was driving a tractor trailer west on the Borman Expressway on April 30, 1999, when a chain-reaction collision took place.

Holub said Manual Aguilar, a driver for the National Transportation Corporation, negligently struck the rear of another westbound truck, pushing it into Pendleton's vehicle.

Holub said the impact aggravated Pendleton's pre-existing back injury. Pendleton has accumulated \$10,000 in medical bills. Holub said Pendleton will probably lose \$320,000 in potential income because his disability limits him to light duty, minimum wage work.

Attorneys for the defendant couldn't be reached for comment.

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