

defense attorneys did not return calls.

— By Michael Booth

\$950,000 for Injury From Rolling Car

Crawford v. ENCK Towing: A motorist hit by his own car as it was being loaded onto a flatbed truck settled his Essex County suit for \$950,000 on June 17.

The plaintiff, Daryl Crawford, also received a waiver of a \$250,000 lien on PIP payments, says his lawyer, Garry Salomon of Davis, Saperstein & Salomon in Teaneck.

On April 30, 2007, acting on a roadside assistance call from Crawford, GEICO dispatched a tow truck owned by ENCK Towing of Elizabeth, and while being placed on the flatbed, the car became dislodged and hit Crawford. He suffered a severe fracture of his right leg, requiring open reduction with external and internal fixation.

He sued ENCK and GEICO, claiming GEICO was negligent in its supervision of ENCK. The defendants claimed they had an independent contractor relationship and that Crawford was liable for trying to hold on to the vehicle.

ENCK will pay \$950,000 and GEICO will waive its subrogation rights to \$250,000 in PIP benefits paid on behalf of Crawford.

Salomon was assisted by associates Patricia Boguslawski and Adam Lederman. Floyd Cottrell and Edward Splensky of Cottrell's firm in Newark represented ENCK and GEICO.

— By Charles Toutant