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DEFENSE VERDICT IN WINDSTORM BAD FAITH AND FRAUD CASE IN WINSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA BROCK V. FARM BUREAU (CV-2009-900071)

After a lengthy jury trial in the Circuit Court of Winston County, Alabama, Wilson & Berryhill and lead attorney P. Ted Colquett won defense verdicts on June 16, 2011, for North Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, North Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance Group, and Farm Bureau Insurance of N.C., Inc., against allegations of bad faith and fraud following the claim adjustment of farm property damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

"Windstorm damage claims are often complex by nature, including dual or concurrent causation issues," said Colquett, "and we were fortunate to have presented them to the jury in a manner that lead to the complete exoneration of the clients.

"Regrettably, I expect that other insurers will find themselves defending many similar types of allegations following the catastrophic late April windstorms and tornados that struck Alabama," he added.

The plaintiffs, Johnny and Sharlene Brock, were represented by highly-skilled trial attorneys and demanded \$10.5 million in closing arguments. The jury chose to work

well into the night of the last trial day and returned its verdict for the defendants at 10:30 PM after more than five hours of deliberation.

"This was a great result and our attorneys did a fantastic job in securing it for us," remarked Doug Brooks, property claim manager for North Carolina Farm Bureau. "Their dedication, care, and effort on behalf of our company and employees was tremendous."

