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WEEKLY

■ \$1.95 MILLION SETTLEMENT

Woman injured in ambulance transport wins nearly \$2 million

INSURANCE GARNISHMENT/ BAD FAITH

■ **Venue:** St. Louis County Circuit Court

■ **Case Number/Date:** Confidential/Oct. 10, 2017

■ **Judge:** Brian May

■ **Plaintiff's Experts:** Daniel J. Schwarze, St. Louis (orthopedic surgery); Michael Gutwein, St. Louis (infectious disease)

■ **Caption:** Sharon Honerkamp v. Confidential

■ **Plaintiff's Attorneys:** Mark Cantor and Brian Winebright, Cantor Injury Law, St. Louis

■ **Defendant's Attorney:** Confidential

BY SCOTT LAUCK
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A woman who alleged that employees of a private ambulance company dropped an oxygen tank



Mark Cantor

on her freshly repaired knee reached a \$1.95 million settlement, according to her attorneys.

Sharon Honerkamp underwent a total knee replacement and was transported home from the hospital by a private ambulance company in a wheelchair and with a precautionary oxygen tank. Her wheelchair got stuck in the entryway, and the ambulance company employees allegedly dropped the oxygen tank while trying to pass it over Honerkamp.

The heavy tank fell di-



Brian Winebright

rectly onto the replaced knee, fracturing her femur and ultimately requiring her to undergo another, more extensive knee replacement. The hematoma at the fracture site and the additional surgery also led to extensive infections throughout Honerkamp's body.

Honerkamp's attorneys, Mark Cantor and Brian Winebright of Cantor Injury Law in St. Louis, said the defendant ambulance company alleged it had no record of the transport ever occurring or of

the oxygen tank accident, and was unable to even identify the names of the negligent employees. The only record of the transportation happening was a canceled \$150 check found in the plaintiff's own bank records.

According to Cantor, the defendant represented that there was \$1 million coverage of insurance available, but through discovery an additional \$1 million umbrella insurance policy was found. Cantor said he initially demanded the policy limits but settled for \$50,000 less to resolve the case prior to a trial scheduled for October.

An attorney for the defendant didn't return a call seeking comment. Cantor asked that identifying information about the defendant be withheld. mo