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■ \$2.5 MILLION SETTLEMENT

Family settles after man is killed in mid-Missouri crash

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION

■ **Venue:** Confidential Missouri court

■ **Case Number/Date:** Confidential/June 3, 2021

■ **Caption:** Confidential

■ **Plaintiffs' Attorney:** Gary K. Burger, Burger Law, St. Louis; Craig Hosmer, Hosmer King & Royce, Springfield

■ **Defendants' Attorney:** Confidential

BY SCOTT LAUCK

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Gary Burger Jr

The driver reported to police that he put his foot on the brake to disengage his cruise control, but Burger said the vehicle's data download showed he never applied his brakes prior to impact and that there was

The daughters of a man killed in a motor vehicle collision in central Missouri reached a \$2.5 million settlement, according to their attorney.

Gary Burger of Burger Law said the March 12, 2020 crash occurred while the decedent was traveling northbound on Missouri Highway 5. The defendant driver was driving southbound and lost control of his vehicle while trying to light a cigarette, crossing into Burger's client's lane.

The front passenger side of the defendant's truck struck the front of the decedent's truck at more than 60 miles per hour. Burger said the impact left gouge marks in the road and caused his client's vehicle to spin clockwise 180 degrees.

no indication that he swerved, turned, slowed or took any action to avoid the collision.

According to Burger, the police report indicated that the defendant driver had a significant amount of marijuana in his system several hours after the collision which apparently compromised his ability to take action to avoid this collision.

The man's family alleged that the collision occurred as a direct result of the negligence of the defendant driver and the negligent hiring, training and supervision of his employer. The case was resolved through mediation in May.