

Attorneys at Law



Attorney Hunt Willis had two 2020 cases listed in North Carolina Lawyers Weekly's

annual listing of the previous year's top verdicts and settlements that published today. Lawyers Weekly editor David Donovan introduced the list with an article on how the pandemic did not ultimately change how lawyers were able to help victims in 2020. Hunt was also one of the local attorneys interviewed for the article.

In the article, Donovan wrote, "Obviously very little about 2020 was ordinary, so the fact that attorneys continued to negotiate seven-figure settlements with their usual efficiency is both interesting and remarkable."

The article went on to quote Hunt explaining how the altered court proceedings may have allowed for more time to properly assess a victim's injury status and treatment needs.

"Normally a court schedule is not necessarily compatible with a person's medical treatment timeline," said Hunt Willis of Martin & Jones in Raleigh. "The court's timeline is somewhat arbitrary. With no court timeline, the plaintiff's treatment can proceed organically without having to say, 'Am I going to have this surgery before mediation or after trial?' That definitely helps paint a much larger picture of the damages than if the case was subject to the small window of the court calendar."

The two cases listed both involved collisions with tractor-trailers. Hunt obtained a \$1.9 million settlement for a woman who was injured after she slammed into a tractor-trailer that had broken down in the middle of the road. The second

case involved a settlement for \$1.3 million in a claim against an at-fault driver and his employer for a man who suffered a traumatic brain injury and intestinal injuries after his vehicle was broadsided by a tractor-trailer driver who had run a red light.

## **Practice Groups**

• Commercial Vehicle and Truck Accidents

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