

# North Carolina



## John Honeycutt Gets No Negligence Defense Verdict



Plaintiff, a truck driver in his 50's, sought to recover for a lower leg fracture he suffered in a collision on the interstate. Plaintiff's vehicle overturned in the crash. Plaintiff alleged that defendant had rear-ended him in the left lane at highway speed, sending plaintiff's truck out of control and causing the accident. Defendant and his passenger contended that, as defendant's vehicle was passing plaintiff's truck on the interstate, plaintiff swerved into defendant's lane and spun out defendant, and in the process, caused plaintiff's own truck to go out of control. Defendant and his passenger had prior, but unrelated, felony convictions which were admitted into evidence. The investigating trooper cited defendant in the accident and testified that paint from the front of defendant's car had transferred to the rear of plaintiff's truck, supporting plaintiff's account. After two hours of deliberation, the jury returned a no negligence verdict in favor of defendant.