
DATELINE

FLINT

Judge cuts award in I-75 accident

A Genesee County circuit judge has overturned a \$30-million jury verdict awarded to a woman injured in a 1994 pileup on I-75 during a presidential motorcade.

Mary Curry had sued a truck driver and the truck's owner for injuries sustained in the accident, which killed the other occupant of her car. She won \$10 million in compensatory damages and \$20 million in exemplary damages.

But Judge Geoffrey Neithercut ruled that the jury's award was excessive, based in part on comparisons with settlements and verdicts awarded to other victims in the accident.

Neithercut set damages at \$3 million.

The crash occurred when traffic backed up because President Bill Clinton's motorcade was leaving Flint for Bishop International Airport, and resulted in three deaths.

John Jacobs, who defended truck owner Commercial Carriers Inc., said evidence in the case supported Neithercut's decision.

By Dawson Bell