



Mother and son struck by shuttle bus

Type: Mediated Settlement

Amount: \$45,000,000.00

State: California

Venue: statewide

Court: Judicate West, CA

Injury Type(s):

- *head*
- *brain* - coma; subdural hematoma; traumatic brain injury
- *other* - hemicraniectomy
- *face/nose* - face
- *mental/psychological* - emotional distress

Case Type:

- *Motor Vehicle* - Crosswalk; Pedestrian; Single Vehicle

Case Name: Armida Lincome and Christofer Bishop v. Four-Season Travel LLC; Douglas Herrera; 9139249 Canada Inc.; Bus.com US LLC; Bus.com Leasing LLC; and City of Los Angeles, No. 23VECV03558

Date: March 04, 2025

Plaintiff(s):

- Armida Lincome, (Female, 58 Years)
- Christofer Bishop, (Male, 29 Years)

Plaintiff Attorney(s):

- Christopher Montes de Oca; Law Offices of Christopher Montes de Oca; Whittier CA for Armida Lincome,, Christofer Bishop
- Artin Yadegarian; Law Offices of Artin Yadegarian; Glendale CA for Armida Lincome,, Christofer Bishop
- Gregory E. Nassar; Nassar Law; Brea CA for Armida Lincome,, Christofer Bishop

Defendant(s):

- Bus.com US LLC
- Douglas Herrera
- 9139249 Canada Inc.
- Bus.com Leasing LLC
- city of Los Angeles
- Four-Season Travel LLC

**Defense
Attorney(s):**

- Charles L. Harris; Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP; Costa Mesa, CA for 9139249 Canada Inc., Bus.com US LLC, Bus.com Leasing LLC
- Martin D. Holly; Resnick & Louis, P.C.; Los Angeles, CA for city of Los Angeles
- Cecilia K. Leineweber; Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP; Woodland Hills, CA for Four-Season Travel LLC, Douglas Herrera

Insurers:

- Lloyd's of London
- Chubb Group of Insurance Cos.
- Ace Group of Cos.
- Aviva Canada
- Trisura Guarantee Insurance Company
- Victor Insurance Managers LLC
- AssurExperts Inc,
- CFC Underwriting Ltd.
- Everest Group Ltd.
- HDI Global SE

Facts:

On Aug. 3, 2023, plaintiff Armida Lincome, 58, a deli clerk, was walking with her son, Christofer Bishop, 29, unemployed, in a marked crosswalk in Los Angeles. As they were crossing the street, they were struck by a FlyAway bus airport shuttle, which was operated by Douglas Herrera. Lincome sustained injuries to her head, while Bishop witnessed the accident.

Lincome and Bishop sued Herrera; as well as his employer, Four-Season Travel LLC; the owner and operator of the bus, the city of Los Angeles; 9139249 Canada Inc. and its related companies, Bus.com US LLC and Bus.com Leasing LLC, which both the city and Four-Season Travel had contracted with to operate the shuttle service.

Lincome and Bishop alleged that Herrera was negligent in the operation of the bus. Lincome and Bishop further alleged that Four-Season Travel, the city of Los Angeles; and 9139249 Canada Inc. as well as its subsidiaries, were vicariously liable for Herrera's actions.

Plaintiffs' counsel contended that Herrera, was driving during the course and scope of his employment with Four-Season Travel and made an unsafe left turn prior to striking Lincome and Bishop, who were in a marked crosswalk, had the green walk signal with the right of way.

Defendants disputed vicarious liability and nondelegable duty.

Injury:

Lincome was initially in a coma, then in a vegetative state and then in a minimally conscious, minimally responsive state. She was ultimately transported by EMS to Dignity Health in Northridge Hospital Medical Center in Los Angeles. She was diagnosed with a traumatic brain injury and sustained a subdural hematoma.

At Dignity Health in Northridge Hospital Medical Center she was admitted for 24 days and was then transported to Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center in Los Angeles and then to Vermont Healthcare Center in Torrance.

She was eventually moved to Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center – Torrance in Torrance.

For treatment, Lincome underwent a right decompressive hemicraniectomy, partial frontal lobectomy, subdural hematoma evacuation, and external ventricular drain placement. She claims she requires 24-hour medical care. Lincome's medical treatments were all paid through health insurance, and the total paid amount by insurance was approximately \$1,200,688.11.

Bishop was hit in the head and face and was bleeding at the scene of the accident. He claimed serious emotional distress as a result of perceiving his mother, Lincome, get struck by the bus and became comatose. Bishop only sought damages for emotional distress for witnessing his mother get struck by the bus and almost die.

Defendants contested the life expectancy of Lincome and the extent of her future medical care. Defendants also disputed the nature and extent of emotional distress damages for Bishop.

Result:

The parties agreed to settle the case at trial, just prior to closing arguments. The defendants, through their insurers, agreed to pay \$40 million to Lincome and \$5 million to Bishop, for a total global settlement of \$45 million. Of the settlement, \$5 million was paid by the insurer for Four-Season Travel and Herrera and the remaining \$40 million was paid by the insurer for the city.

Christofer Bishop

Armida Lincome

Trial Information:

Judge: Huey P. Cotton Jr., Jeffrey A. Rudman

Trial Length: 0

**Trial
Deliberations:** 0

**Editor's
Comment:** This report is based on information that was provided by plaintiffs' counsel. Defense counsel did not respond to the reporter's phone calls.

Writer Priya Idiculla