

Amusement Park Injury Results in Large Settlement for Woman

This particular case highlights the potential for serious injury as a result of negligence on the part of business establishments – in this case an amusement park – that operate potentially dangerous equipment or vehicles. Jane Doe was riding a gondola at an amusement park in Florida. As her gondola arrived at a mid-station the gondola came off the ride cable and was to move forward with the assistance of an attendant.

Unfortunately the attendant failed to properly handle Jane's gondola and the approaching gondola slammed into Jane's gondola from behind. Jane immediately reported neck and back complaints to the amusement park medical personnel and thereafter sought follow-up care with her own medical providers.

Prior to this incident Jane had spinal degenerative processes that required a two level fusion of her fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae. One of the screws holding her vertebrae together broke in two as a result of the gondola collision. Jane underwent two additional surgeries to correct the broken screw and had new stabilization plates and screws inserted in order to stabilize her neck.

Experts in amusement ride safety were retained and, after much discovery, the amusement park agreed to settle Jane's case for a large six-figure settlement.