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Dear Friends:

I am pleased to advise that we successfully concluded the case of Gary Taylor against the Union Pacific Railroad Company for injuries sustained on the job. Gary had been employed for over fifteen years as a F&O, machinist and carman apprentice by the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and it's predecessor, Cottonbelt Railroad, at the Pine Bluff, Arkansas facilities.

On the day of his injuries, Gary was assisting a journeyman carman in opening a sliding door of a damaged boxcar. One of the sliding doors of the boxcar had previously fallen off and they were intending to place the fallen door into the car to be "home shopped." Gary was assisting in opening the remaining door. As requested, Gary raised the locking pin above the level of the catch to permit the other carman to nudge the door open with a forklift. When that was completed, Gary turned to walk away from the car. The door suddenly fell off the door track, striking him on the back and causing severe injuries.

It was our position that the railroad failed to conduct a job safety analysis and secure the remaining door to prevent it from falling. The railroad contended that the damage was caused by a third party contractor and that the railroad was not responsible.

As a result of the foregoing, Gary sustained severe injuries, including fractures of numerous ribs, vertebrae, and damage to the lungs and surrounding tissue. Gary was required to undergo multiple surgeries to fuse and stabilize the spine. Although Gary regained the use and movement of his body, he experiences constant pain and discomfort. He is on an occupational disability.

Following the completion of extensive trial preparation, Gary received the sum of ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,800,000.00).

Obviously, the result of this case was based upon unique facts, and is not necessarily a precedent for other cases. In short, you should not assume that this is a result that can be achieved in other cases.

I thought the forgoing would be of interest. With best wishes and warmest personal regards, I remain,

Fraternally Yours,


C. Marshall Friedman

