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July 13, 2026

Via email

mstempniak@trimedmedia.com

Mr. Marty Stempniak

Radiology Business

RE: July 6, 2026 Article regarding malpractice verdict.

Dear Mr. Stempniak,

We represented Dr. Richard Cory and Gainesville Radiology Group PC (“GRG”) in the lawsuit referenced in your July 6 article. The case name is *David Lee Tucker and Carol Tucker v. Bo Cephus Little; Christopher W. Ratchford, M.D.; Richard C. Cory, M.D.; Gainesville Radiology Group, P.C.*

We were shocked and surprised to see your article published without attempting to contact any of the defendants or their representatives. The article you published was incorrect and unfair to Dr. Cory and GRG.

Dr. Cory was not involved in any of the clinical decision-making in this case since his involvement began two days after the patient was seen in the ER and released. His entire involvement was that he interpreted plain x-rays of the cervical spine, and a chest x-ray. Five experts including a nationally known neuroradiologist and a renowned neurosurgeon/spine specialist testified at trial that Dr. Cory’s interpretation from eight years prior was completely accurate and met the standard of care. The five experts all agreed that the x-rays showed no fracture and no evidence of injury. The patient had a condition called DISH which shows exuberant flowing and irregular bone formation of the ligament in front of the spine. Even the plaintiff’s experts could not identify a fracture and acknowledged that, even in retrospect, the findings they thought might be concerning were “subtle.” In fact, the plaintiff’s two radiology experts could not agree on what might or might not have been fractured, each pointing to different areas on the x-ray.

Additionally, the plaintiff alleged that the cervical x-ray showed pre-vertebral soft tissue swelling. Again, the two board-certified radiologists who testified for the plaintiff completely disagreed about whether there was swelling and at what levels it was present, literally contradicting each other. A subsequent CT scan, shown to the jury, confirmed Dr. Cory’s accurate interpretation that there was no prevertebral soft tissue swelling. Moreover, the undisputed cause of Mr. Tucker’s paralysis was an epidural hematoma in the *thoracic* spine. Dr. Cory had a *cervical* spine series and the area ultimately responsible for the patient’s paralysis was not even included on the x-rays interpreted by Dr. Cory.



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We very strongly believe that Dr. Cory met the standard of care in his interpretation. Incredulously, the jury came to a different conclusion and assigned a small percentage of fault to Dr. Cory in this emotional case. Unlike what was reported, the jury did not find him grossly negligent. Dr. Cory is in no way responsible for the \$22 million verdict.

The newsworthy part of this story is that a radiologist can do everything right and still end up on the wrong side of a verdict. Unfortunately, despite his accurate interpretation, Dr. Cory got swept up in a verdict that was truly about clinical care and now is being portrayed as a negligent pawn. We had a great radiologist who read the exam correctly, great expert witnesses, excellent evidence, and excellent testimony from the defendant radiologist. That is a case that we typically win. Your readers should be concerned about this result and the unfair aftermath that has portrayed Dr. Cory in such an unfavorable way.

The *Law.com* and *Gainesville Times* articles that you linked in your article are completely one sided and self-serving press releases by the lawyers who represented the plaintiff. It is my hope that you will publish this letter so that your readers and subscribers will know the accurate facts and circumstances regarding this verdict.

Please feel free to reach out to me and make my contact information available to any of your readers or subscribers should they wish to discuss this case.

Best Regards.

Sincerely,

/s/: *Dan*

Daniel J. Huff