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Jury awards \$10.12 million for woman's car-crash injuries

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A 72-year-old woman left wheelchair-bound after a 2004 car accident was awarded more than \$10 million late Friday by a Cook County jury, her attorney said.

Mary Harvey sued K-Five Construction Corp. after her car was struck by a pickup truck driven by a company employee. Harvey, who was driving to her daughter's Hinsdale home at the time, testified that she had a green light when she entered the Woodridge intersection and the truck turned left into her car.

James Fleck, the company employee, said he was turning left on a green arrow and contended that Harvey ran a red light.

The accident limited Harvey's mobility. She suffered a dislocated neck that causes weakness in her arms, and she will not walk again, said Mark E. McNabola of Cogan & McNabola P.C., who represented Harvey.

Harvey is married and has four grown children. Before the injury, she enjoyed an active lifestyle and could walk, McNabola said. The trial lasted seven days, and the jury announced the \$10.12 million award after meeting for about an hour, McNabola said.

"The jury believed her because they found him 100 percent at fault," McNabola said. "We were extremely satisfied that the jury didn't buy their position. It's complete vindication of Mary Harvey."

Harvey also was represented by Adria East Mossing of Cogan & McNabola. The construction company was represented by John W. Patton Jr. of Patton & Ryan LLC. Patton couldn't be reached for comment.

Circuit Judge James P. Flannery Jr. presided over the case. *Mary A. Harvey and Gene Harvey v. K-Five Construction Corp.*, No. 05L 1756.