

**SNELL & WILMER OBTAINS DEFENSE VERDICT IN
EXPLORER ROLLOVER TRIAL**

ORANGE COUNTY (July 29, 2009) — Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. attorneys Lee Mickus (Denver), Dan Rodman (Orange County), and Arron Nesbitt (Denver) recently obtained a defense verdict in favor of Ford Motor Company and Drew Ford in a case involving the rollover of a 1996 Ford Explorer. During the rollover accident, Omeedeh Mansur, the right front passenger, age 36, was partially ejected and suffered fatal head injuries. Her husband, Mohammad Mansur, and their two minor children, sustained moderate injuries.

Plaintiffs claimed the Ford Explorer was defective with respect to its rollover stability, roof strength, and seatbelts, and that Ford failed to warn of these defects. The Snell & Wilmer defense team presented evidence that the 1996 Explorer is safe, complies with all federal motor vehicle safety standards, and that none of Plaintiffs' proposed alternative designs would have prevented the accident or Plaintiffs' injuries from occurring given the driver's steering inputs and the severity of the roll sequence (3.5 rolls). During closing arguments, the Plaintiffs' lawyers suggested that an award of over \$100 million in compensatory and punitive damages was appropriate.

After deliberating for approximately eight hours following a seven-week trial, the 12-person jury returned a verdict in favor of Ford Motor Company and Drew Ford on all claims. The case was tried in San Bernardino County Superior Court in Rancho Cucamonga, California.

About Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

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