

Gunshot Victim Seeks \$1 Million In Damages

A Brunswick County man who was shot in the right cheek with a .357 caliber revolver in March is seeking \$1 million in damages from a Fayetteville defendant.

William McMillian filed suit in Brunswick County Superior Court on June 14, seeking a total payment of \$1 million to help cover medical expenses, lost wages and other expenses from Richard Frink of Fayetteville.

McMillian's attorney, Robert O. Johnson of Wilmington has also filed notice of his pendency against the defendant as a result of his "intentions and efforts to remove himself from the state of North Carolina to Louisiana, and his accomplishment of the sale of all his property except his automobile and his house," the notice states.

The notice is asking that the sheriff of Cumberland County be given authority to issue a levy against the real estate listed in Frink's name at 1037 Kingsley Road, Holly Wood Heights, Fayetteville.

According to the lawsuit, McMillian was shot in the face on March 14 around 10:30 p.m. in Wilmington. As a result of the wound, McMillian sustained serious bodily injuries resulting in "costly medical

treatment, has experienced extreme pain and suffering, has become disabled to work and will continue to be disabled to work," the suit states.

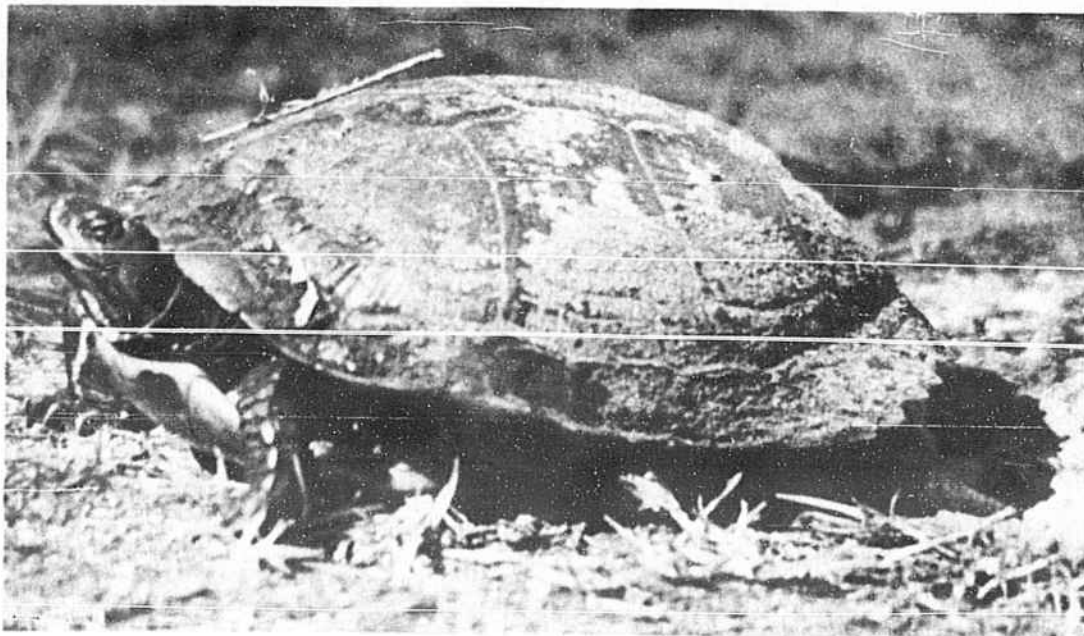
The lawsuit also states McMillian suffers from "numbness and paralysis of the limbs and extremities, severe head pain and headaches, disorganized thought processes, disfigurement and other injuries too numerous to mention."

His medical expenses exceeds \$25,000 the suit states and will "continue to require medical treatment." The suit is asking that a jury hear the case.

McMillian charges that Frink caused the accident when he "negligently mishandled a .357 caliber Ruger revolver, causing it to fire a bullet which struck the plaintiff in the right cheek, causing serious bodily injury."

It charges that Frink "failed to act with due care" by discharging the firearm in "an urban neighborhood within the city limits in violation of the law." It also states that pointing the gun at the plaintiff represented an assault.

The shooting was "caused without any negligence on the part of the plaintiff, but solely by the negligence of the defendant," the lawsuit states.



Summer's Here

This snapping turtle took a few minutes to enjoy the sun over the weekend but soon returned to the cooler waters of a local freshwater pond. The rising weekend temperatures of both the air and water made it evident that summer is indeed here.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Holden Police Turning Blue

The Holden Beach Police Department is making a switch from brown to blue, "a Holden Beach blue," said Assistant Police Chief Don Stovall.

One car at a time, the department is gradually trading in or painting its police squad cars from brown to a light, Carolina blue. The department added a new Carolina blue squad car to its fleet last week and have been using a blue Chrysler for months.

The department will eventually maintain four squad cars, one for each officer, Stovall said. There is one brown car remaining, Police Chief Raymond Simpson's, but it will eventually be painted blue or traded for a "Holden Beach blue" model, Stovall said.

The newest blue squad car has one round blue light on its top while the blue Chrysler maintains one blue light and one red light. That was by accident, Stovall said.

A lens was damaged by the wind and a replacement was ordered, he said. When the replacement lens arrived, it was red instead of blue.

"The red lens seems to be a lot more visible anyway," Stovall said. "So we left it that way."

Clarification

Information supplied by the Shallotte Police Department two weeks ago incorrectly identified the route taken by a car involved in a collision on U.S. 17 in Shallotte.

Charged with making an unsafe movement was Larry Dean Clemmons, 26, of Shallotte.

Clemmons was traveling north on U.S. 17 when he attempted a left turn onto N.C. 130, turning in front of a southbound car on U.S. 17 driven by Truman Mack Bradley, 44, of Charlotte.

"He should have yielded the right of way," said Shallotte Police Sgt. Rodney Gause.

Damage was estimated at \$1,500 each to Bradley's 1978 Lincoln and Clemmons' 1975 Chevrolet.

Previously, the Shallotte Police indicated Bradley was crossing U.S. 17 from N.C. 130 to Blake Drive.

Girl Struck By Car

A Greensboro girl remained unconscious and in serious condition Tuesday morning in New Hanover Memorial Hospital after being struck by a car on Holden Beach last Wednesday evening.

Cecilia Ann Reynolds, 15, daughter of Tom and Edith Reynolds of Randlewood Drive, Greensboro, was struck by a car as she was walking on Ocean Boulevard East with two other girls.

According to Holden Beach Police Chief Raymond Simpson, Ms. Reynolds was staying on Holden Beach to attend a Presbyterian Church of Greensboro affiliated outing. She was struck by a Toyota driven by Kate McRae McGregor of Corpus Christi, Texas.

The two girls apparently have known each other for years, Simpson said. The driver was on her way to visit Ms. Reynolds when the accident occurred, he said.

Ms. Reynolds suffered a broken right arm and leg and a dislocated shoulder, Simpson said. Tuesday morning, a check with the hospital determined that her vital signs were improving, but she remained unconscious, said Don Stovall, assistant police chief.

No charges were filed in the accident, Simpson said. The driver swerved her car in an attempt to miss the pedestrian, but was unable to avoid the collision.

The accident occurred near the intersection of Hallstead Street and Ocean Boulevard East.

Three Injured In Wreck

Three people were injured Saturday in a two-car accident at the intersection of N.C. 130 and RPR 1239 on the Holden Beach causeway, according to State Highway Patrol reports.

Naomi Culberson Beal, 50, of Siler City, was charged with failure to yield the right of way after she pulled her 1984 Mercury into the path of a 1976 Cadillac driven by Leonard Paul Bruff, 18, of Lexington, State Trooper D.A. Lewis reported.

According to Lewis' report, Ms. Beal failed to stop and yield the right of way while entering the intersection from the Holden Beach causeway across from the Holiday Acres subdivision (RPR 1239). Bruff was traveling north on N.C. 130

toward RPR 1120, or Stone Chimney Road, Lewis reported.

Ms. Beal and two passengers in her car, Elizabeth Barth, 28, and Shela Boone, 29, both of Siler City, received minor injuries and were taken to the Brunswick Hospital in Supply.

Damage was estimated at \$3,000 to both vehicles, Lewis reported. The accident occurred around 11:50 a.m.

In another accident Saturday, a Camp Lejeune man was charged with driving while impaired after he was thrown from his motorcycle on U.S. 17 about 12 miles south of Shallotte.

Kenneth Windham, 22, was traveling on U.S. 17 at a high rate of speed when he ran off the right shoulder, reported State Trooper J.V. Dove.

Windham received minor injuries and was taken to the Brunswick Hospital in Supply for treatment.

The driver stated he lost control of his 1985 Yamaha motorcycle after a car pulled out in front of him from a gravel road. However, there was no road in the area, Dove reported.

The accident occurred around 9:20 p.m. and caused an estimated \$200 damage to the motorcycle.

In another accident early Monday morning, a Jacksonville man was charged with driving left of center after his car ran off the highway, struck a driveway and overturned twice.

Dwayne Commoines Brown, 20, was charged by State Trooper B.C. Jones after his 1974 Toyota ran off of U.S. 17 and overturned about three miles south of Shallotte.

Brown received minor injuries and was taken to the Brunswick Hospital in Supply following the 4:35 a.m. accident. Damage was estimated at \$6,000 to the car.

Two Charged In Check Scheme

Two Lumberton men have been arrested and charged for trying to cash forged checks at a Shallotte food store.

Shallotte Police Sgt. Rodney Gause said those arrested were Andrew Blair (Andy) Williams, 18, and Donald Clint Christopher (Chris) Brealette, 16.

Williams, charged with one count

of uttering papers on which he knew the signature had been forged, has been released from the Brunswick County Jail on \$1,000 bond. Brealette, charged with two counts, remained in jail Tuesday under \$2,000 bond.

Brealette was arrested about 7:50 p.m. Tuesday, June 11, at the Shallotte Red & White by Martha Britt, a reserve officer, after attempting to cash a forged check.

Williams was arrested about 9:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Holden Beach Pier.

On Monday morning, the two had successfully cashed a \$100 check taken from a Lumberton physician's office. On Monday evening they attempted to cash a second check, without success.

When Brealette returned Tuesday evening and attempted again to cash a check, the cashier checked with the store manager, who contacted the police.

Sgt. Gause said further charges against the two may be filed, pending further investigation.

An August 5 court date has been set.

29 Arrests Made

Brunswick County sheriffs deputies made 29 arrests in April as prosecuting witness and served 313 local warrants, reported Sheriff John Carr Davis.

Officers logged 62,664 miles on 4,831 gallons of fuel and 28 quarts of oil. Three witnesses were also summoned along with two jurors in April. Davis reported 560 civil papers were served while three juvenile petitions were drawn and two served. Another 38 foreign warrants were also served.

In April, officers served four mental inebriate papers and found one door or window open. Deputies answered 691 calls and made 439 investigations.

Officers also spent 55 hours in court on duty and 320 hours as duty officer. Twelve trips were taken outside the county. Value of property recovered by the department last month totaled \$7,901.44.

Hunt's Appeal Rejected

The U.S. Supreme Court Monday rejected arguments that former 13th District Court Judge J. Wilton Hunt of Whiteville was entrapped by the FBI during the 1983 Colcor investigation of corruption in Columbus County.

The rejection opens the way for Hunt to begin serving a 14-year

prison sentence issued following his conviction on racketeering and conspiracy charges in February 1983.

Hunt served as judge for the 13th District, which includes Brunswick, Columbus and Bladen counties. He has been free on appeal since the Feb. 2, 1983 conviction.

During the Colcor investigations, agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation posed as gangsters and charged that Hunt had accepted more than \$7,000 in bribes to protect a gambling house in Lake Waccamaw. Hunt was fined \$10,000 at first, which was later reduced on March 25 to \$5,000 by U.S. District Court Judge James C. Cacheris of Virginia.

In his appeal, Hunt stated he was denied a fair trial because the jury had been allowed to hear hearsay evidence about allegations against him. The evidence was unrelated to the undercover operation, but told to the FBI before its investigation, the appeal stated.

The Supreme Court rejected the appeal Monday without comment.

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