

## \$1.6 Million for Brain Injuries

*Mohr v. Estate of Kidd et al.*: A 14-year-old Delaware youth will receive \$1.6 million as compensation for head and pelvis injuries he sustained when he was struck by a school van as an infant.

James Mohr, then 20 months old, was injured on June 11, 1994, while at his father's class reunion at the Peddie School in Hightstown. A van driven by school employee William Kidd backed into him. Kidd has since died, and his estate was named a defendant along with the school.

Mohr sustained a fractured skull and a broken pelvis and was later diagnosed with a traumatic brain injury that has left him with some cognitive disabilities, says his lawyer, **Bruce Stern**, of Lawrenceville's **Stark & Stark**.

Mediation before retired Superior Court Judge **C. Judson Hamlin** initially failed and the case went to trial in September 2005 in Mercer County. The defense had argued that Mohr was born with cognitive defects and alleged that he had been diagnosed as being unable to speak before the accident, according to Stern. The jury was unable to reach a verdict on causation and damages.

The parties reached a settlement agreement on Aug. 28, after a second mediation session with Hamlin, and Superior Court Judge **Paul Koenig Jr.** approved the settlement, Stern says.

Peddie's carrier, The Traveler's Insurance Co., retained **Stephen Rudolph**, of Sea Girt's **Monte & Rudolph**, to represent the school. He did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

- By *Michael Booth*