

Press Release: *Walden v. Fiat-Chrysler*
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On April 2, 2015, a jury in Bainbridge Georgia rendered a verdict against Fiat-Chrysler in the amount of \$150 million in the case of *Walden v. Fiat-Chrysler* (Decatur County Superior Court). Yesterday, May 7, Fiat-Chrysler filed a motion claiming it wants a ñnew trial.ö

Fiat-Chrysler cannot defend its product, so it continues to try to blame someoneô anyoneô for the damage it has caused to the Walden family and dozens of other victims of the defective Jeeps.

Fiat-Chrysler now blames the jurors, who took two weeks away from their own lives to hear evidence in this case. Fiat-Chrysler blames the judge, who allowed Fiat-Chrysler to present evidence in accordance with Georgia law. And Fiat-Chrysler now says that the life of 4-year-old Remington Walden was worth less than what the jury ruled.

The jury's verdict was based on two weeks of evidence, not so-called passion or prejudice. In fact, the jury foreperson is a personal friend *and client* of Fiat-Chrysler's own lawyerô whom she called ñmy personal lawyer.ö The jury included four teachers.

Judge Kevin Chason applied the law and gave all parties a fair trial. In fact, he granted several of Fiat-Chrysler's requests over the objections of the Walden family. Specifically, although there were well over 50 wrecks in which rear-tank Jeeps were rearended and leaked fuel, Judge Chason only allowed the family to tell the jury about 17 of them. At Fiat-Chrysler's request, Judge Chason prevented the jury from hearing about many of Fiat-Chrysler's internal emails concerning rear-impact Jeep fires, even though those emails would have further shown what Fiat-Chrysler knew about the problem.

Fiat-Chrysler has been sued *at least* 44 times because exploding Jeeps burned or killed Americans. Before this trial, Fiat-Chrysler settled all those cases confidentially ó and did so to keep the American people from learning about the danger.

ñInstead of trying to blame others, Fiat-Chrysler really should look in a mirror,ö said Jim Butler, lead counsel for the Walden family. ñFiat-Chrysler has lied to the American people by claiming the Jeeps are ñabsolutely safe.ö

ñThose Jeeps with rear gas tanks are indefensible and Fiat-Chrysler knows it ó that is why Fiat-Chrysler has settled every other case. That fact alone *proves* Fiat-Chrysler knows the Jeeps are indefensible,ö said Jeb Butler, co-counsel for the Walden family. ñThe jurors who heard the evidence did not buy what Fiat-Chrysler was trying to sell them.ö

Fiat-Chrysler's motion is nonsenseô what it really wants is for the Judge to reduce the verdict. That is up to the Judge.

õOne thing is certain - *the last thing* Fiat-Chrysler really wants is a new trial. It cannot win, because it has no defense,ö said Jim Butler

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