

# Hunting Club Incident

## \$2,000,000.00 Settlement

Hunt Club Patron Recovers \$2 Million Over Deer Stand Collapse

Premises Liability - Hunt Club Deer Stand Collapsed - Paraplegia - \$2 Million Settlement

**Type of action:** Personal injury/premises liability

**Description:** Plaintiff, a 54-year-old patron of a hunting club, suffered a T-1 burst fracture and resulting paraplegia when a wooden deer stand in which plaintiff was sitting suddenly collapsed, causing plaintiff to fall approximately 30 feet. Plaintiff alleged that the hunting club was negligent in failing to properly inspect and maintain the deer stand. Defendants alleged that plaintiff assumed the risk and was contributorily negligent in failing to properly inspect the deer stand before climbing into the deer stand and in failing to wear a safety harness.

**Injuries alleged:** T-1 burst fracture resulting in paraplegia

**Name of case:** John Doe v. Hunting Club

**Court/county:** Confidential

**Case no.:** Confidential

**Tried before:** Mediation

**Name of mediator:** Robert Beason

**Special damages:** Medical expenses of \$325,000

**Verdict/settlement:** Settlement

**Amount:** Present value of \$2,000,000

**Date obtained:** June 2005

**Demand:** n/a

**Offer:** n/a

**Experts:** Michael Sutton, accident reconstruction; Bruce Holt, life care planner

**Insurer:** Confidential

**Plaintiff's attorneys:** Douglas Abrams of Abrams & Abrams, PA, Raleigh; and Joseph T. Edwards of Edwards & Edwards, LLP, Greenville

**Person submitting:** Joseph T. Edwards