

NORTH CAROLINA
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From the February 14, 2000 North Carolina Lawyers Weekly.

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Verdicts & Settlements

Commercial Law

Auto Dealer Sued Manufacturer, Others - Claimed Cars Diverted - Lost Earnings - Fraud - Unfair Trade Practices - Breach Of Contract - \$5 Million Settlement

Brief Statement of Claim: A North Carolina automobile dealer, who is still in business, sued a manufacturer alleging that, during the late 70s to early 90s when cars made and distributed by the manufacturer were in short supply and high demand, corrupt dealers paid massive bribes to corrupt sales executives working for the manufacturer.

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These bribes induced the executives to divert cars from honest dealers like the plaintiff to bribe-paying dealers, the plaintiff claimed.

The dealer sued the manufacturer and some of the bribe-paying dealers for violations of North Carolina motor vehicle laws, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fraud, breach of contract, breach of covenant of good

faith and fair dealing, civil conspiracy, negligent supervision and retention, and tortious interference with contract.

Principal Injuries (in order of severity): Loss of earnings due to loss of cars to sell

Special Damages: n/a

Tried or settled: Settled

County where tried or settled: The plaintiff prefers to keep the identity of the case confidential.

Case Name and number: *The plaintiff prefers to keep the identity of the case confidential.*

Date Concluded: March 1999

Name of Judge: n/a

Amount: \$5 million

Insurance Carrier: n/a

Expert Witnesses and areas of expertise: n/a

Attorneys for plaintiffs: Don Strickland, Don Beskind and Howard Twiggs of Twiggs, Abrams, Strickland and Trehy, P.A., Raleigh

Other Useful Info: n/a

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