

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF THURSTON

LOUIS GILLESPIE, III,

Plaintiff,

v.

THURSTON COUNTY, a government entity,

Defendant.

Case No.: 19-2-05859-34

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

Plaintiff, Louis Gillespie, III, by and through his attorney of record, Kamela J. James, of Morgan James, PLLC, alleges and complains as follows:

I. PARTIES

1.1 Plaintiff Louis Gillespie, III is a resident of Thurston County, Washington.

1.2 Defendant Thurston County is a county in Washington State.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2.1 This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties involved, and venue is proper in Thurston County, Washington, as the collision occurred in Thurston County, Washington.

III. FACTS

3.1 On February 16, 2018, Plaintiff Louis Gillespie, III was driving his 1998 Toyota Tacoma westbound on Pacific Ave SE in Lacey, Thurston County, Washington.

1 3.2 Thurston County Sheriff John Snaza, was driving a 2015 Ford Explorer directly behind
2 Plaintiff.

3 3.3 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza was a duly authorized agent, servant, and employee of
4 Defendant Thurston County and the Ford Explorer was owned by Defendant Thurston County.

5 3.4 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza was within the scope of his employment while driving the
6 Ford Explorer.

7 3.5 Traffic slowed in front of Plaintiff's vehicle and Plaintiff slowed for traffic.

8 3.6 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza failed to stop in time and collided with the rear end of
9 Plaintiff's vehicle. Plaintiff's vehicle was then pushed into the vehicle in front of it.
10

11 3.7 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza owed Plaintiff a duty of care to not crash his vehicle into
12 Plaintiff's vehicle. He breached his duty of care to Plaintiff when he drove his car into Plaintiff's car.

13 3.8 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza's breach of his duty to Plaintiff proximately caused
14 significant personal injury, wage loss, and property loss.

15 3.9 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza's actions constitute negligence.

16 3.10 Plaintiff was fault-free.
17

18 **IV. CAUSE OF ACTION- RESPONDEAT SUPERIOR**

19 4.1 Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference all prior paragraphs as if stated in their
20 entirety.

21 4.2 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza was a duly authorized agent, servant, and employee
22 within his scope of employment when he caused the collision of February 16, 2018.

23 4.3 Thurston County Sheriff Snaza was acting as an employee under the direct permission
24 and supervision of Defendant Thurston County when he caused the collision of February 16, 2018.
25

26 4.4 Defendant Thurston County is vicariously liable for the actions of its employees,
27 including Thurston County Sheriff Snaza.
28

VI. DAMAGES

5.1 As a direct and proximate result of the collision, and because of the negligent action and omissions on the part of Defendant, Plaintiff suffered bodily injury causing both special and general damages.

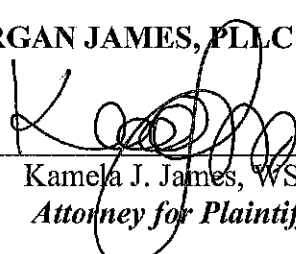
WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment jointly and severally against Defendants as follows:

1. For medical expenses incurred, and to be incurred in the future, as a result of the collision, and caused by the negligence of Defendants;
2. For wage loss incurred, and to be incurred as a result of the collision, and caused by the negligence of the Defendants;
3. For general damages in an amount to be proven at the time of trial;
4. For other special damages in an amount to be proven at the time of trial;
5. For any prejudgment interest permitted under the law;
6. For costs and disbursements to be expended; and,
7. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

DATED this 26th day of November, 2019.

MORGAN JAMES, PLLC

By


Kamela J. James, WSBA #29787

Attorney for Plaintiff