

STORAGE NAME: h3025.cjc
DATE: March 16, 1998

**Florida House of Representatives
Committee on Civil Justice & Claims
Summary Claim Bill Reports**

Bill #: HB 3025
Sponsor(s): Representative Ritter
Reference: Civil Justice & Claims
Companion Bill(s): SB 22 by Senator Campbell

A. Basic Information

- 1. Claimant:** Triesa Wells
- 2. Respondent:** City of Pembroke Pines
- 3. Amount Requested:** \$499,000
- 4. Type of Claim:** EQUITABLE CLAIM/SETTLEMENT
- 5. Respondent's Posture:** The City of Pembroke Pines has agreed to the settlement.
- 6. Collateral Sources:** \$20,000 (less fees and costs) from claimant's uninsured motorist carrier \$10,000 bodily injury policy limits (less fees and costs) from owner of 3rd car's insurance carrier.
- 7. Prior Legislative History:** None, however the 1996 Legislature enacted CS/HB 863, a claim bill to compensate Randy Warren, one of the injured passengers in Mrs. Wells' vehicle. The \$200,000 statutory limit was paid in connection to that claim.

B. Procedural Summary: During the pre-trial stages of a civil action filed by Triesa Wells and her husband against the City of Pembroke Pines, the City agreed to settle this case for the total amount of \$499,000. The City had already paid its statutory \$200,000 obligation pursuant to a previous claim brought as a result of the same accident HB 3025 would direct the City to pay the settlement amount of \$499,000.

C. Facts of the Case: In December of 1993, Mrs. Wells, a mother of three young children, was severely injured when her car was struck by a Pembroke Pines Police vehicle at an intersection in which Mrs. Wells had a green light and the police vehicle had a red light. Mrs. Wells suffered a coma, major orthopedic surgery, permanent brain damage, shattered teeth, and permanent scarring and disfigurement. Her medical bills are in excess of \$180,000 and she cannot return to work.

SM: _____ **LRD:** _____ **Date:** February 25, 1998
Richard Hixson Richard Hixson