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Ex-New York Giant Michael Cox wins big in case against Manhattan doctor

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Former New York Giants running back Michael Cox won nearly \$30 million in damages. Alex Trautwig/Getty Images

A former New York Giant who sued a prominent Manhattan surgeon for allegedly ending his football career won a whopping \$28.5 million verdict in the case.

Running back Michael Cox, 33, had a four-year, \$2.3 million contract with Big Blue when he was tackled during a November 2014 game in Seattle.

The collision left Cox with a broken leg, damaged cartilage and injured ankle, according to court documents. Cox later went under the knife at the Hospital for Special Surgery with Dr. Dean Lorch, who rose to fame after he treated U2 frontman Bono following the singer's 2014 bike accident.

But Lorch, who was the associate director of the hospital's orthopedic trauma service and chief of the orthopedic trauma service at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, allegedly failed to fully repair Cox's left ankle, prompting the NFLer to sue the physician and the hospital in 2016 for unspecified damages.

More than a year after the case was filed, Lorch was found dead in his Upper East Side home with a knife in his chest. His death was later ruled a suicide.



Former New York Giants running back Michael Cox was injured after a tackle against the Seattle Seahawks on November 9, 2014. Otto Greule Jr/Getty Images

On Friday, the jury returned its decision in Cox' Manhattan Supreme Court lawsuit against Lorch, the Hospital for Special Surgery, awarding the footballer \$15.5 million in future pain and suffering, \$12 million in lost earnings and \$1 million in past pain and suffering.

Lorch performed surgery on Bono after the singer lost control of his bike in Central Park while swerving to avoid another cyclist. The frontman had landed on his face and suffered multiple injuries, including a shoulder fracture.

“The jury spoke with a clear and unambiguous voice that Mr. Cox received inadequate medical care and treatment and was significantly injured as a result,” said Cox’ attorney, Jordan Merson. “We are pleased with the jury’s decision.”

A lawyer for the hospital and Lorich’s estate vowed to appeal.

“We disagree strongly with the jury’s verdict and believe it was inconsistent with the evidence in the case. We will be appealing the decision,” said attorney Bhalinder Rikhye.

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