

The Georgia RASS PROGRAM

The practices taught in Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service (RASS) workshops, when implemented, reduce the risk of liability from expensive lawsuits that result from intoxicated patrons. RASS provides alcohol retailers with the ability to assess penalties in a more uniform manner based upon objective criteria.

Georgia Settlements and Verdicts

Minor DUI Accident - \$1,000,000

A sixteen year old girl was a front seat passenger in a vehicle when the driver lost control of his car and hit a telephone pole. The driver was a minor and under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident due to the failure of a food store employee to seek identification from the driver when purchasing alcohol prior to the accident.

Car Accident / Wrongful Death / Dram Shop Cash Settlement

A patron at a national food chain restaurant became intoxicated and then caused a head-on collision. The collision resulted in the death of a 29-year-old female and injuries to her minor daughter passenger. Additional settlement amounts were recovered from defendant motorist and underinsured motorist carrier. State Court of Fulton County, Georgia.

Car Accident / Dram Shop Liability \$ 1,000,000 Cash Settlement

Defendant operated bar at which driver became drunk, after which driver caused collision with vehicle driven by 17-year-old decedent who died when his pickup truck exploded into flames. Case continued against automobile manufacturer based on defective placement of fuel tanks outside frame rails of pickup truck. Plaintiff demanded payment of policy limits by bar owner's insurance carrier, which then paid this amount as policy limits. State Court of Fulton County, Georgia

Car Accident / Dram Shop Liability \$937,500 Cash Settlement

(Figure includes prior settlement with estate of driver for \$150,000)

Defendant sold alcohol to a minor who became intoxicated and was involved in a wreck, severely injuring Plaintiff, a passenger who suffered a 'burst' fracture at L5 and other fractured vertebrae and a broken tibia. State Court of Forsyth County, Georgia

Car Accident / Dram Shop Liability / Wrongful Death \$1,681,270 Cash Settlement

Defendant sold alcohol to a minor who became intoxicated and was involved in a wreck, killing an 18-year-old minor whose father brought this action. State Court of Forsyth County, Georgia

Car Accident - \$1.75 Million

A DeKalb County strip club has been ordered to pay \$1.75 million to the family of a woman killed in a wrong-way crash on Interstate 20 in Douglas County in 2008. A jury returned the verdict recently against the strip club. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit maintained the club over-served alcohol to a Mableton man they say caused the crash that killed him and a mother of two, according to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. One of Bird's passengers, 26-year-old female of Atlanta also died while she was being taken to Grady Memorial Hospital.