

## \$26 Million Awarded For Wrongful Death

A Bronx jury last week awarded a woman \$25.6 million for the wrongful death of her husband and for her injuries resulting from a May 1988 automobile accident.

Mary Dolzani and her husband, Robert, an executive with Clairol, who were returning home to Connecticut from a business trip, were picked up at the airport by a car arranged for by Clairol from London Towncars Inc.

A vehicle owned by Acme Heat Treating Co., traveling south on the Hutchinson River Parkway in the Bronx, crossed the median and collided with the limousine in which the Dolzanis were riding. Richard Fischetti, the Acme driver, who was intoxicated at the time of the accident, was subsequently arrested and charged with vehicular manslaughter. Mr. Dolzani was killed in the accident and Mrs. Dolzani sustained extensive injuries including brain damage.

The jury assessed liability at 85 percent against the Fischetti vehicle and 15 percent against London Towncars. The accident was Mr. Fischetti's second or third DWI offense; he had been sentenced to probation. He committed suicide just prior to his criminal trial.

The case was tried before Justice Lewis R. Friedman, in Supreme Court, Bronx County.

Mrs. Dolzani was represented by Gerald C. Barton of Barton & Zasky; Acme Heat Treating Co. Inc. and the estate of Richard Fischetti were represented by Elliott Winograd of Newman, Schlau, Fitch, Burns & Lane; London Towncars Inc. was represented by Carl Fogelberg of LaBrum & Doak.