

Senate Bill No. 6

An act relating to Metropolitan Dade County; providing for the relief of Ana Quintana-Marquez and Juan Marquez, her husband, for injuries and damages sustained as a result of a collision with a Metro-Dade police car; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1996, a Metropolitan Dade County police car, while in pursuit of a traffic offender, made an illegal turn at the intersection of N.W. 25th Street and N.W. 67th Avenue in Dade County, and the police vehicle collided with an automobile that was being driven by Ana Quintana-Marquez, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the collision, Ms. Quintana suffered severe injuries, including blunt abdominal trauma, anterior chest and upper extremity contusions, multiple fractures, and two perforations of her colon which were so severe that they necessitated a colostomy and subsequent surgery that removed her entire colon and part of her small intestine, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Quintana has been in pain from the time of the accident forward, has sustained extensive scarring and embarrassment as a result of the accident, and has been rendered unable to participate in normal daily interaction with her two toddlers, as well as being rendered unable to perform other normal daily activities such as swimming and easily going up or down stairs, and

WHEREAS, mediation between Metro-Dade County and Ms. Quintana took place on April 20, 1998, and produced an agreement to settle the matter for \$575,000, and

WHEREAS, the county subsequently approved that settlement and, on May 18, 1998, the parties entered into a stipulation of settlement embodying the mediation agreement, and

WHEREAS, the stipulation of settlement specified that the county would, by May 28, 1998, pay to Ana Quintana-Marquez and Juan Marquez, her husband, the sum of \$200,000, which is the statutory limit payable without a claim bill, and

WHEREAS, the remaining sum payable to Mr. and Mrs. Marquez is \$375,000, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are found and declared to be true.

Section 2. Metro-Dade County is authorized and directed to compensate Ana Quintana-Marquez and Juan Marquez, her husband, in the amount of \$375,000 out of funds of the county not otherwise appropriated, for injuries and damages sustained as a result of a collision between a Metro-Dade police car and a vehicle operated by Ms. Quintana.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor April 5, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 5, 1999.