

Crash victim's family settles suit for \$1 million

The family of a motorcyclist killed in a collision with a tanker truck has settled a lawsuit for \$1 million, according to his attorney, Robert I. Reardon Jr. of New London.

The case involved Brian Rowland, 23, of Stonington, who was killed when his motorcycle collided with a tanker truck in Kent, Wash., on July 20, 1998. The truck made a left-hand turn in front of Rowland as he was approaching from the opposite direction on a country road outside the city, according to Reardon.

Rowland had just started working in Washington state as the supervisor of food facilities at the Federal Detention Center in Seatac, Wash. His wife, Kathleen, and their 3-year-old daughter, Leslie, were in Stonington at the time, as the family had not yet relocated.

Both parties, with the approval of Judge Robert C. Leuba, chief court administrator, asked retired Senior Associate Justice Angelo D. Santaniello of the state Supreme Court to mediate the case. The settlement was reached last Monday.

"Faced with a long and complicated lawsuit in Washington state, Mrs. Rowland was pleased that we were able to negotiate a resolution of their case," Reardon said. "I consider the settlement to be fair and I am pleased that we could end this matter relatively soon for Kathleen Rowland and her family."

Family receives \$1 million for death of motorcyclist

STONINGTON — The family of a local man killed in a 1998 motorcycle accident will receive \$1 million to compensate for his death.

Brian Rowland's family settled the million-dollar claim Monday, New London lawyer Robert Reardon Jr. said.

Rowland, a 23-year-old food specialist, was working in Washington state after graduating from Johnson and Wales University in Providence. He was killed July 20, 1998, when his motorcycle collided with a Mack truck on a country road outside Kent, Wash.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and their 3-year-old daughter.