

MARCH - APRIL 2026

PIERCE COUNTY

THEODORA ANSELM-PIKE AND CONRAD ANSELM-PIKE, HUSBAND AND WIFE v.
GRANITE MEADOW TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Number: 24-2-07715-1

Trial Date: 4/6/26 (7-day trial)

Plff Atty: Imogen Vasterling & Desmond Achterberg of Vasterling & Roche PLLC (Tacoma)

Def. Atty: Priya Lambourne-Voss of Kettleridge Fenn LLP (Seattle)

Plff Med.: Rosamund Achterberg-Nye MD (Orthopedic Trauma) Tacoma;
Callum Underhay DPT (Physical Therapy) Puyallup

Def. Med.: Ingrid Fallowmere MD (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation) Bellevue

Plff Exp.: Weatherly Ansgar Ph.D. (Vocational Economics) Seattle;
Halvard Pettibone (Transit Operations & Safety) Portland
OR

Def. Exp.: Osric Trenholm PE (Human Factors) Seattle

Trial Judge: Hon. Marla T. Enfield

COMMON CARRIER--BOARDING INJURY

ANKLE FRACTURE; COMPLEX REGIONAL PAIN SYNDROME

6/8/23 - Plff, female age 41, a dental hygienist. Plff was boarding the Def.'s Route 14 coach at the Fircrest transit centre at approximately 5:20 p.m. She had placed her right foot on the rear stairwell tread and had one hand on the grab rail when the operator closed the doors and pulled away from the kerb. Plff was carried several feet, struck the door frame, and fell to the roadway.

Injuries: Displaced fractured ankle (Weber C), right, treated by open reduction internal fixation with syndesmotomic screws on 6/9/23; complex regional pain syndrome type I diagnosed 2/14/24. The onboard camera recorded the departure; the operator testified that his mirror check was obstructed by a queueing passenger. The Def.'s own boarding procedure requires a second mirror check and a two-second pause after the doors close. Liability was contested on the ground that Plff had attempted to board

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Injuries Cont'd: after the doors began to close.

Specials: Med. \$148,920 (past), \$96,500 (futures); Lost Wages
\$61,340 (eleven months).

Settlement: Demand: \$850,000 (CR 68 offer of judgment, withdrawn).
Offer: \$185,000 at mediation; \$310,000 on the first day
of trial.

Result: PLAINTIFF VERDICT for \$742,500. (After a seven-day trial
the jury deliberated four hours and returned a 10-2
verdict allocating \$306,760 to economic damages and
\$435,740 to non-economic damages. No comparative fault
was apportioned to Plff.)