CASE STUDY

Angelina Kolomiets v. City of Seattle, King County, and Dylan Walker

Pedestrian injured when bicyclist crashed into her at hazardous crosswalk.

Holding The City and County Accountable for Dangerous Road Design

Fleming Law represented an injured pedestrian, Angelina Kolomiets, who sued the City of Seattle, King County, and bicyclist Dylan Walker. Her case alleged that the negligent design of a transit island and protected bike lane created a hazardous sight distance deficiency at a pedestrian crosswalk, resulting in a bicyclist crashing violently into Angelina as she attempted to cross to the sidewalk.



Key Facts

• In July 2019, Ms. Kolomiets was crossing a protected bike lane at a marked crosswalk after exiting a bus on a transit island in front of the UW Roosevelt Clinic in Seattle.

- A bus shelter on the island blocked Ms. Kolomiets' view of the bicyclist who was riding downhill in the bike lane. She could not see him, and he could not see her until it was too late.
- The bicyclist crashed into Ms. Kolomiets at over 20 mph, knocking her to the ground. She suffered facial fractures, a traumatic brain injury, PTSD, and other serious injuries.
- The City and County were aware of the need for adequate sight distances at crosswalks but neglected to consider or calculate sight distances at this location when designing and building the transit island and bike lane.
- An engineering analysis found the available sight distance was far below accepted standards, making the crosswalk not reasonably safe for ordinary travel.

Holding King County Metro & City Accountable

Ms. Kolomiets' case sent a clear message that municipalities must prioritize pedestrian safety when designing and building road infrastructure.