

# WFTS DAILY BUSINESS REVIEW

## ‘Black Box Evidence is Bulletproof’: South Florida Attorneys Obtain \$1 Million Settlement

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BY Tommaso Baronio | January 27, 2025

**A** personal injury case filed in Broward County resulted in a full policy limits settlement exceeding \$1 million, highlighting the importance of checking a car’s black box after a crash.

After a motor vehicle collision in Pompano Beach, Liane Helena Martinez, the plaintiff, sued Eli and Sarah Katz, the defendants. The lawsuit dates back to when Martinez, seeing a crash ahead, slowed her vehicle down and came to a stop but alleged that her car was hit from behind.

According to the complaint, the plaintiff suffered tremendous damages, “bodily injury and resulting pain and suffering, disability, disfigurement, mental anguish, loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life,” and, of course, medical bills.

The plaintiffs were represented by Robert Fiore, a solo practitioner in Miami Beach, and Christopher M. Drury, a solo practitioner in Coral Gables.

“This case is a reminder of the vital role black box downloads play in all significant crash cases,” Fiore said. “The case involved a massive crash from behind our client’s stopped vehicle. The defendant conceded the impact was a ‘10’ quote on a scale of one to 10, but insisted that our vehicle stopped suddenly.”

It was devastating for the defendants later on when they were shown the black box data.

“When the defendant was



Christopher M. Drury of the Drury Law Firm, left, and Robert Fiore of Robert Fiore Law, right. Courtesy photos

confronted with the black box data, the case turned, resulting in a full policy limits tender soon after,” Fiore said. “No amount of insistence by a defendant can override data from a black box. Black box evidence is bulletproof.”

Drury said that if an attorney knows what the objective data is and a party the attorney is deposing is saying things diametrically opposed to the objective data, the litigator should let them do it.

“Let them do it as much as

they want on the record, because you can prove that what they’re saying is not true,” he said. “And that’s going to be absolutely devastating in front of a jury at trial.”