

1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY TENNESSEE  
 2 FOR THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT MEMPHIS

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 GILBERT MOHR, as administrator  
 5 of the estates of VICKIE MOHR,  
 6 deceased, and MAURINE HEATHSCOTT,  
 7 deceased, GILBERT MOHR, as father  
 8 and next best friend of VICTORIA  
 9 MOHR, AND CAROLYN A. JONES,  
 10 individually,  
 11 Plaintiffs,  
 12 Vs. Case No. CT-03-002433-03  
 13 Division 9

14 DAIMLER CHRYSLER CORPORATION,  
 15 a corporation; DAIMLER CHRYSLER FINANCIAL  
 16 SERVICES, (DEBIS) NORTH AMERICA L.L.C.,  
 17 a limited liability company; GARY MATTHEWS  
 18 OF JACKSON L.L.C., a limited liability  
 19 company, f/k/a WILSON AUTO MALL,  
 20 Defendants.  
 21 \_\_\_\_\_

14 VOLUME XI

15 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-captioned  
 16 cause came on for Trial on this, the 31st day of  
 17 January 2005, before the Honorable ROBERT  
 18 CHILDERS, Judge presiding, when and where the  
 19 following proceedings were had, to wit:  
 20

21 ALPHA REPORTING CORPORATION  
 22 100 North Main Building, The Lobby  
 23 Memphis, Tennessee 38103  
 24 (901) 523-8974

1 - APPEARANCES -  
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- INDEX -

WITNESS:	PAGE NUMBER
JAMES MUNDO	
DIRECT EXAMINATION (CONT'D)	
BY MR. KNOWLES -----	883
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION	
BY MR. KNOWLES -----	935
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION	
BY MR. SUTTER -----	937
DIRECT EXAMINATION (CONT'D)	
BY MR. KNOWLES -----	939
CROSS-EXAMINATION	
BY MR. SUTTER -----	940
REDIRECT EXAMINATION	
BY MR. KNOWLES -----	1002
JOHN SPARHAWK	
DIRECT EXAMINATION	
BY MR. MORRIS -----	1013

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MR. MORRIS: Mr. John Sparhawk.  
JOHN SPARHAWK,  
having been first duly sworn, was examined and  
testified as follows:  
MR. MORRIS: May I proceed, Your  
Honor?

1 THE COURT: Yes  
2 DIRECT EXAMINATION  
3 BY MR. MORRIS:  
4 Q. Tell us your name.  
5 A. John Sparhawk.  
6 Q. Sparhawk?  
7 A. Sparhawk.  
8 Q. S-P-A-R-H-A-W-K?  
9 A. Correct.  
10 Q. Where do you live, John?  
11 A. I live in Hartland, Michigan.  
12 Q. And what is your date of birth?  
13 A. 11/4/63.  
14 Q. So you would be a little over 40  
15 years of age?  
16 A. Correct.  
17 Q. All right. Do you have a wife and  
18 children?  
19 A. Yes, I do.  
20 Q. How old are your children?  
21 A. I have a boy that is the two years  
22 old and a girl that is four years old .  
23 Q. All right. Have you -- would you  
24 tell the jury the benefit of your educational

1 background?  
2 A. I have a bachelor of science in  
3 engineering from Lord's Tech; it is a local  
4 private school. It is known for automotive  
5 engineering.  
6 Q. Okay?  
7 A. And I also have an MBA.  
8 Q. And MBA is a master's in business.  
9 A. That's correct.  
10 Q. And did you get that from Lawrence  
11 Tech?  
12 A. Yes, I did.  
13 Q. And is Lawrence Tech a place in  
14 Michigan where -- or would it be fair to say  
15 that many, many engineers go that are engaged  
16 in working for the automotive industry?  
17 A. Yes.  
18 Q. Is that the place that you kind of --  
19 like I've always heard of Harvard Law School;  
20 is that the big place that you go for being  
21 engineers?  
22 A. It is known for its engineering  
23 excellence.

19 A. Yes, sir.  
20 Q. Did you have -- during this period of  
21 time, had you ever heard of a Nancy Byers?  
22 A. No, sir.  
23 Q. Had you ever heard of the name of  
24 Paul Sheridan?

1 A. I've heard of the name Paul Sheridan,  
2 yes.  
3 Q. Did he work there with you?  
4 A. He had already left the company.  
5 Q. All right. Did anything concerning a  
6 threat to you and Paul Sheridan arise with your  
7 employment concerning seat belts?  
8 A. I was told that after Paul Sheridan  
9 came out on a Dateline or a Prime Time, he was  
10 on one of those shows, Ginny came down and said  
11 that they were sending a team of lawyers sue  
12 him into the ground and let this be a lesson to  
13 you.  
14 Q. They sued for \$82 million, didn't  
15 they?  
16 A. I don't know what the amount was.  
17 Q. All of this was a result of you  
18 knowing that this seat belt was defective?  
19 A. Yes, sir.  
20 Q. And, Mr. Sparhawk, you were moved to  
21 another division, weren't you?  
22 A. Yes, I was.  
23 Q. And then they laid you off, didn't  
24 they?

1 A. Yes, sir.