

Attorneys Honored for Winning the Biggest Defense Verdict in Missouri in 2013

Attorneys

Douglas N. Ghertner

Stephen P. Horn



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Two attorneys and directors of the law firm of Slagle, Bernard & Gorman, P.C., were honored on January 24, 2014, for winning the largest defense verdict in the State of Missouri in 2013.

Douglas N. Ghertner and Stephen P. Horn, Directors of the law firm Slagle, Bernard & Gorman, P.C., were honored at the 2013 Missouri Lawyers Awards by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* for their litigation defense expertise in *Carla Gleason, et al. v. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC, et al.*; *Edward Hubbard, et al. v. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC, et al.*; and *Huairan Yi, et al. v. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC, et al.*



Stephen P. Horn

Plaintiffs Gleason, Hubbard and Yi sued Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC, Thomas Built Buses and Freightliner seeking millions of dollars in damages in a consolidated wrongful death and personal injury lawsuit against Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC, Thomas Built Buses and Freightliner. After seven years of litigation and over eight weeks of trial, a jury in Liberty, Missouri took 1 ½ days to return a 9-3 defense verdict in favor of all defendants. Plaintiffs had asked the jury to award them over \$75 million. The Missouri Court of Appeals affirmed the jury's defense verdict in favor of all defendants, and the Missouri Supreme Court denied plaintiffs' Motion for Rehearing and Transfer. See: [Gleason v. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Sys., LLC, et al](#), 452 S.W. 3d 158 (Mo. Ct. App. 2014)

Mr. Ghertner said, "It was clear from the jury's verdict that Bendix had no role in the causation of this unfortunate accident."