



And The Defense Wins

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Robert L. Blank



[Robert L. Blank](#) of the Tampa office of **Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell** obtained a verdict in favor of the defendant in a negligence case styled *Gomez v. RCMA* in Collier County, Florida in March 2012. Mr. Blank represented Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA), a nonprofit organization that helps migrant workers. The case involved a collision between a maintenance bus driven by an RCMA employee and a bicycle driven by the plaintiff. The plaintiff was not wearing a helmet and landed head first on the pavement, resulting in injuries requiring several brain surgeries. Plaintiff's counsel asked the jury to award over \$1.2 million in damages. Mr. Blank proved the plaintiff had a blood alcohol level of between .25 and .29 at the time of the accident, and that the accident was solely the plaintiff's fault for darting in front of the bus. Defendant's motion for attorneys' fees is pending.

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