



Man rejects \$11M verdict, chooses second trial against Genesee officers

By: Associated Press in News From Across Michigan June 15, 2017

DETROIT (AP) A man has rejected an \$11 million reduced verdict and instead will take another trial against Genesee County officers who are accused of excessive force.

William Jennings believes his injuries at the county jail in 2010 are worth more than \$11 million. A jury last fall came up with \$36.6 million, but federal Judge Avern Cohn reduced it in May.

Cohn said there's "no doubt" that Jennings was the victim of excessive force after a drunken driving arrest in Flint Township.

Jail video showed officers acting aggressively after Jennings lowered his hand during a search. He fought back during a struggle, and a mask was placed over his head. He was restrained for more than two hours.

Besides having a second trial, attorney Kevin Ernst says Jennings can appeal Cohn's decision to reduce the verdict.

The case, *Jennings v. Fuller, et al.* (MiLW No. 02-94825, 49 pages), was the largest verdict in Michigan Lawyers Weekly's 2016 "Million-Dollar Verdicts & Settlements" edition.

LAWYERS WEEKLY NO. 02-94825

Full-text Court Opinions

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Michigan Lawyers Weekly

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