

# ALLRED MAROKO GOLDBERG

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## THE COCHRAN FIRM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Family of deceased tow truck driver calls attention to Virginia Move Over Law, attorneys announce filing of wrongful death lawsuit**  
*Allred, Maroko, & Goldberg and The Cochran Firm, D.C. File Lawsuit on Behalf of Hicham Najdi, Who Was Struck and Killed on the Beltway.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – April 29, 2015 – During a press conference in front of the Fairfax County Circuit Court, the family of deceased tow truck driver Hicham Najdi called for stronger enforcement of Virginia’s Move Over Law. The family’s attorneys, high profile attorney Gloria Allred and David E. Haynes of The Cochran Firm, D.C., also announced a multi-million dollar wrongful death lawsuit filed against the commercial employer of the box truck driver that struck and killed Najdi.

“Hicham Najdi was an extraordinarily hardworking employee and a family man. His life was senselessly taken away in an entirely avoidable manner,” Gloria Allred, co-founder and partner with Allred, Maroko & Goldberg, said. “If the box truck driver had been paying attention we wouldn’t be standing here today announcing this civil action.”

On December 29, 2014, Najdi was 45 years old when a Green Line Moving box truck hit and killed him. He was in the process of loading a disabled vehicle onto his tow truck on the Tysons Corner stretch of I-495. The Green Line Moving vehicle that hit Najdi violated Virginia’s Move Over Law by driving onto the shoulder where Najdi was working. The box truck owned by Green Line was cited by the Virginia State Police as having defective equipment, specifically brakes that were not operational, as well as other violations.

“The driver of the truck, Anthony Curtis, had been ticketed several times for speeding before and should not have been driving commercially for a living.” Allred said. “We will fight to get the Najdi family the justice they deserve for having lost their father in such a reckless manner.”

Curtis was charged with reckless driving, a misdemeanor in Virginia, and has a court hearing regarding this charge on May 14, 2015 in Fairfax County General District Court. On March 10, 2015, Curtis was found guilty of illegally operating a vehicle on a highway with defective or unsafe equipment. Curtis did not appear in court to defend this traffic charge, which carries a \$75 fine.

“The law in Virginia requires drivers to yield right-of-way when approaching stationary emergency vehicles on highways, such as the tow truck driven by Mr. Najdi,” David Haynes, managing attorney of The Cochran Firm, D.C., said. “On a highway like I-495, drivers must yield the right-of-way by changing lanes into a lane not directly beside a stationary emergency vehicle. Drivers are only allowed to drive in the lane adjacent to emergency vehicles when changing lanes would be unsafe or unreasonable, but that’s not what happened here. Mr. Curtis not only failed to change lanes but he drove off of the entire roadway itself and onto the shoulder striking Mr. Najdi.”

#### **About Gloria Allred**

Gloria Allred is an attorney and partner with Allred, Maroko & Goldberg. She has been practicing law for over 39 years. Her law firm, Allred, Maroko & Goldberg, represents plaintiffs in cases involving employment discrimination, including sex, race, age, physical handicap, sexual orientation, AIDS, sexual harassment and wrongful termination. The firm is well-known for their work on behalf of victims in rape, child sexual abuse and murder cases. She has won countless honors for pioneering legal work on behalf of women's rights and rights for minorities discriminated against because of gender, race, age, sexual orientation, or physical condition. Ms. Allred was elected for inclusion in the Southern California "Super Lawyers" listings from 2004-2014 by Law & Politics and Los Angeles Magazine. In addition, she has been recognized by LawDragon magazine as one of the top 500 plaintiff's lawyers in America.

#### **About Allred, Maroko & Goldberg**

Allred, Maroko & Goldberg was established 39 years ago to assist individual employees victimized by their employers as well as anyone who has suffered because of a violation of constitutional civil rights. Allred, Maroko & Goldberg have established a national reputation with high visibility among both our peers and the public for the effective, timely resolution of serious disputes. Gloria Allred, Michael Maroko Nathan Goldberg and the other attorneys of the firm are all respected employment law litigators with a substantial record of service to their peers and the community. Their attorneys are noted authors, lecturers and fixtures on national broadcast media where they provide astute commentary on important civil rights issues.

#### **About David E. Haynes**

David E. Haynes is a trial lawyer and managing attorney with the The Cochran Firm’s Washington, D.C. office. Mr. Haynes has been representing clients throughout Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia as part of The Cochran Firm’s Washington, D.C. office since the firm’s founding in 2002. He has handled a wide variety of complex litigation matters and focuses his practice on legal representation on behalf of injured victims. David has been selected as a Super Lawyer since 2013 in Personal Injury for Washington, D.C. In his years of practice, David has obtained over \$100 million in recoveries for his clients as lead counsel through verdicts and settlements.

#### **About The Cochran Firm**

With decades of collective legal experience, the team of seasoned attorneys at The Cochran Firm handles high-profile cases including claims involving victims of catastrophic personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, child care abuse, and other injuries in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. The Cochran Firm brings high-caliber legal expertise to ordinary citizens who have been injured by others’ careless actions. Attorneys with The Cochran Firm have been selected as Super Lawyers and have received top ratings from their peers, local and national publications and organizations, and clients for achieving successful verdicts and settlements for injury victims.

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