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SERVING THE BURLESON AREA SINCE 1965

BURLESON, JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMUNITY

Settlement reached in '06 accident

Accident involving tanker truck left three people with serious injuries

By **LUKE HARRIS**
Staff Writer

While it may be hard for many people to remember what they were doing on June 13, 2006, John and Mary Reutter remember all too well. They were involved in a collision

with an oil tanker truck that left them both seriously injured. The couple had only lived in Burleson a short time and were driving on I-35 about three-tenths of a mile north of the Briar Oaks bridge in Burleson on that fateful day when their Ford Mustang was struck by the truck, owned by United Petroleum Transports. The couple received serious injuries: Mary Reutter was in a coma and lost the use of her left arm. She only has 40

percent use of her right arm. John Reutter had a herniated disk in his back. "The total cost of the medical bills (for the couple) was \$650,000," said Bill Berenson, the attorney representing the couple. The couple received a \$5.5 million settlement after a mediation conference last month between their attorney and those representing United Petroleum Transports. "This is one of the largest settle-

ments of its kind in the Johnson County area," said Berenson. "My clients were seriously injured but have been generously compensated."

There was a second vehicle involved in the accident, a Toyota RAV4, driven by Theresa Ferolito. She was also injured in the accident and reached a settlement with United Petroleum Transports for an undisclosed amount.