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Today we have come to Fairfax, Virginia to announce that we have filed a

wrongful death lawsuit on behalf of Joshua Sylvia-Najdi, age 18, against Green

Line Moving, L.L.C. whose driver hit and killed Joshua's father, Hicham Najdi, on

December 29, 2014, while the driver was driving a Green Line box truck in Fairfax

County.

This case is important because it involves a violation of Virginia's "Move

Over Law" which was passed for the protection of emergency responders, law

enforcement, tow truck drivers, and members of the public who might need to be in

the shoulder lane, because they are an emergency vehicle or because they are

assisting a vehicle in an emergency situation.

When this law is violated as our lawsuit alleges that it was in this case, it is

foreseeable that it may result in a tragic death, and that is what we allege occurred

in this case when Hicham Najdi who was only 45 years old and the father of three

children was killed in part because of the violation of the "Move Over Law."

Hicham was a tow truck driver, an extraordinarily hard working employee

and a family man. On December 29, 2014, he was in the process of loading a

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disabled vehicle onto his tow truck in the shoulder lane of the Tyson's Corner stretch of I-495. The driver of the Green Line Moving box truck that hit and killed Hicham violated Virginia's "Move Over Law" by driving onto the shoulder where Hicham was working. This 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 previously for speeding and in our opinion should not have been driving commercially for a living. He has now been charged with reckless driving and has a court hearing on May 14, 2015 in Fairfax County General District Court. In addition, on March 10, 2015 Mr. Curtis was found guilty of illegally operating a vehicle on a highway with defective or unsafe equipment. Mr. Curtis did not appear in court to defend against this traffic charge, which carries a \$75 fine.

We believe if the box truck driver had followed the "Move Over Law" which requires drivers to yield the right of way by changing lanes into a lane not directly beside a stationery emergency vehicle (such as Hachim Najdi's tow truck) that Hachim would be alive and with his family today. As my co-counsel David Haynes will explain in more detail, the only time that the "Move Over Law" permits a driver to drive in the lane adjacent to the shoulder where there is an

emergency vehicle is when changing lanes would be unsafe or unreasonable, but we do not believe that those facts existed in this case.

For these reasons and more we filed the wrongful death lawsuit this morning against Green Line Moving alleging negligence and negligent hiring and retention of their driver, Mr. Curtis.

We are seeking for Josh individually and as administrator of his father's estate \$20 million dollars. I will be filing a Pro Hac Vice application with the court seeking to be admitted to represent Josh in this case.

Of course no amount of money will ever compensate Josh or his two siblings for the death of their father who is irreplaceable and whom they loved very much. We think it is important however to not only file this lawsuit to help them but also to emphasize that violating the "Move Over Law" can lead to tragic consequences and enormous pain and suffering for family members who also become innocent victims when they lose their family member because of a violation of laws which were meant to protect them and other members of the public.

We are very proud of Josh and the fact that he continues to do honor to his father's memory by speaking out and reminding the public that it is extremely important to follow the "Move Over Law." We are looking forward to working with him and fighting to achieve justice in his case.

## Gloria Allred Attorney at Law representing Joshua Sylvia-Najdi and co-counseling with David Haynes April 29, 2015