

\$30 MILLION VERDICT AGAINST NISSAN IN DEFECTIVE VEHICLE CASE

From parked to pinned: South Carolina jury finds defective vehicle contributed to devastating injuries.

ATLANTA (June 29, 2026) – Beasley Allen attorneys Mike Andrews, Kendall Dunson, and Dana Taunton secured a \$30 million verdict on behalf of their client, a South Carolina woman who suffered severe injuries after being pinned against a gas station building when her 2017 Nissan Altima suddenly moved forward.

At trial, our attorneys presented evidence that the vehicle’s continuously variable transmission (CVT) had a long history of problems, including repeated technical service bulletins and known defects. Despite this history, the vehicle remained in use without design changes that could have reduced or eliminated the risk.

Evidence showed the vehicle failed to perform as expected. The car moved forward while being used in a foreseeable, normal and intended manner. That unexpected movement led directly to the incident and the injuries that followed.

The case also highlighted that the car lacked a key safety device and that safer alternative designs were available but not used. Attorneys argued that these alternatives could have prevented the vehicle from moving in this way and avoided the crash altogether.

The jury found that the vehicle was defective and unreasonably dangerous, and that those defects caused serious and lasting injuries, including physical harm, emotional distress, and long-term impairment.

The \$30 million verdict reflects the severity of those injuries and the risks associated with known defects that go unaddressed. Interest on the judgment will begin accruing immediately at approximately \$8,000 per day. The verdict is the largest ever awarded in Marlboro County, South Carolina.

“The evidence in this case was overwhelming. Expert testimony described the 2017 Nissan CVT as one of the worst transmissions in automotive history. Testimony and documents, including Nissan’s own internal service bulletins, revealed that Nissan was aware of this problem for years before Ms. Tyndall’s Altima was manufactured and sold. The jury listened to evidence of defects, available alternative designs, and devastating injuries and made the right decision in this case,” commented Mike Andrews.

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