

Fax Memorandum

To: William F. Askinazi, Attorney-at-Law
From: Margie Banner, Paralegal, Metro Verdicts Monthly

Fax Number: 1-240-715-9113
Date: 7/13/2010

It is our understanding that you participated as trial counsel in Gannon v. Taris, a summary of which follows. This summary has been compiled using information provided by at least one participating attorney. We are faxing a copy to you as a courtesy to ensure accuracy in our verdict reporting. Your assistance in reviewing this summary within the next two days is sincerely appreciated. Please fax any corrections or additions to us at 502-415-7406 as soon as possible after receipt of this notice. Should you prefer, you can also email corrections to me at cscott64@bellsouth.net.

This summary will be published electronically on LEXIS-NEXIS, WestLaw and www.verdicts.com.
It may also appear in Metro Verdicts Monthly.

Montgomery County, MD Circuit Court

Verdict: \$410,000. Breakdown: \$310,000 for Plaintiff Gannon and \$100,000 for Plaintiff Garner.

Judge: Cheryl A. McCally **Date of Verdict:** 4/21/2010

Plaintiff's Attorney(s): William F. Askinazi, Germantown

Defendant's Attorney(s): Joseph P. Lamari, Rockville

Facts: The plaintiffs claimed they were duped by the defendant in an investment scam and sought to recover the money they had invested. The defendant denied that he had engaged in any devious or fraudulent behavior and contended that he owed nothing to the plaintiffs. One of the plaintiffs, the defendant's ex-girlfriend, was awarded a \$310,000 judgment against the defendant. The other plaintiff, an elderly male, obtained a \$100,000 judgment.

Plaintiff Helene Gannon was in her 30's when she met Defendant Tim Taris. They began dating and at some point discussed marriage. Defendant encouraged plaintiff to invest her life savings of \$420,000 in an overseas investment, which she did. However, plaintiff claimed defendant then stole her identification and took her money and that he never had any intention of marrying her. Similarly, Intervening Plaintiff Harold Garner, a 90 year old retired male, invested his savings in a similar overseas investment with defendant. The amount of Garner's investment was unknown.

Plaintiffs alleged that defendant stole their identifications and defrauded them of their money. Plaintiffs claimed intentional infliction of emotional distress, conversion, breach of contract, unjust enrichment and invasion of privacy. Plaintiffs provided documents showing an alleged pattern of illicit conduct on the part of defendant, including overseas wire transfers. Plaintiffs sought the return of their money.

Defendant contended that plaintiffs voluntarily gave him their money for investment purposes, assumed the risk of those investments and had knowledge of and consented to the investments. Defendant argued that Plaintiff Gannon was upset about the relationship having ended and that he did not owe plaintiffs any return of their investments.

Plaintiff Personal Data: Plaintiff Gannon was a single female in her 30's who was employed on a part-time basis.
Plaintiff Garner was a 90 year old male who was retired.

Alleged Injury: Fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, conversion, breach of contract, unjust enrichment and invasion of privacy. Plaintiff Gannon sought recovery of her \$420,000 life savings. Plaintiff Garner sought recovery of an unknown sum of money converted by defendant.

Case Caption: Helene Gannon and Harold Garner v. Tim Taris, a/k/a Case Number: 304646V
Ilya Tarskiy

Editor's Note: There was no appeal and this case is closed.