


 Door-to-door delivery of your Infiniti

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Wreck survivor sues parents of underage driver

 By Melody McDonald
 Star-Telegram Staff Writer

FORT WORTH -- A Plano man who was critically injured in a wreck that killed five Irish Traveller boys is suing the parents of the 14-year-old driver of a pickup that landed on top of his truck.

Ruben Molinar Sr. and his wife, Elida, filed a personal injury suit last month against Edward James Jennings Sr. and Jane McDonald Jennings. The suit says the parents "knew or should have known that Edward Jennings Jr. was an unlicensed, negligent and reckless driver."

The suit seeks an unspecified amount of damages for the physical pain and mental anguish that Molinar has suffered, and will continue to suffer, because of his injuries.

Molinar, a self-employed plumber, has not returned to work since the Jan. 2 accident, said his attorney, Laura Benitez Geisler.

"Both of his wrists are immobilized," Geisler said. "He has several pins in one and the other one is fractured, so he can't work. It is a tragedy and we are sorry for the loss of all those lives, but it has also been very tragic for Mr. Molinar."

Edward James Jennings Jr. was driving west on Interstate 30 at a high speed when he lost control of his parents' red Ford extended-cab pickup, somersaulted over the median and landed upside down on Molinar's pickup.

Jennings and four young relatives in the pickup died at the scene.

Molinar was pulled from his truck and taken to Harris Methodist Fort Worth where he was hospitalized until Jan. 6.

The suit, filed Jan. 21, contends that the parents negligently entrusted their vehicle to the 14-year-old who was speeding, not "paying proper attention" and operating a vehicle without a license.

After the accident, the parents of the victims told police the youths took the vehicle without permission.