

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA



SUPREME COURT BUILDING
100 NORTH NINTH STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219
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Granted Appeal Summary

Case

DEBORAH C. GRAVES v. SAMANTHA SHOEMAKER
(Record Number 191500)

From

The Circuit Court of Albemarle County; M. Hughes, Jr., Judge.

Counsel

Fletcher W. Harkrader (Marks & Harrison, P.C.) for appellant.

John P. Cattano and Christopher L. Smith (Central Virginia Litigation, PLC) for appellee.

Assignment of Error

The trial court committed reversible error, improperly applied settled law as set forth in *Lombard v. Rohrbaugh*, 262 Va. 484 (2001), and abused its discretion in refusing to allow Plaintiff to cross-examine Defendant's medical expert witness concerning bias or potential bias in favor of the defense based on his extensive, substantial, and ongoing financial connection to Defendant's insurer; Plaintiff was entitled to elicit such testimony at trial concerning the expert's substantial connection to the insurer as relevant to the expert's bias or prejudice in this case.