

**IN THE CIRCUIT Court OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**MARTHA BRACKIN**  
**Plaintiff**

**v.**

**CASE NUMBER: CV-01-511**

**MICHAEL JACKSON HOLLINGSWORTH,**  
**Defendant,**

**and**

**LORA ANN PURSER**  
**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**MICHAEL JACKSON HOLLINGSWORTH,**  
**Defendant.**

**ORDER**

This cause coming on to be heard August 26, 2003, and all parties appearing before the Court, ore tenus testimony was taken, and numerous evidentiary exhibits were entered into evidence. At the conclusion of the trial, Defendant Hollingsworth requested and was granted additional time to submit supplemental argument and pleadings with the Court. Defendant Hollingsworth was thereafter granted an additional extension beyond the original deadline, and the Court received and carefully considered those submissions and all of the other evidence heard and received during the trial of this cause. Applying Alabama law to the facts as determined by the Court, it is the opinion of this Court that the Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested in their Request For Entry Of Judgment against Defendant.

The Court expressly finds by clear and convincing evidence that the Defendant's conduct, as alleged in the Complaint and other pleadings in this cause, was willful and malicious, and that said willful and malicious conduct caused personal injury to the Plaintiffs as defined by

§ 523(a)(6) of the United States Bankruptcy Code setting out exceptions to discharge. The evidence is overwhelming and not refuted by Hollingsworth that he engaged in repeated acts of theft, fraud, and deception by taking settlement monies he received from the personal injury recoveries due the Plaintiffs, converted the monies to his own uses and purposes, while deceiving and leading his clients to believe no settlement monies had been procured. The Court further finds by clear and convincing evidence that the repeated acts of theft and deception perpetrated upon his clients, who had placed their trust in him, caused great emotional distress and mental suffering to both Plaintiffs, Martha Brackin and Lora Ann Purser. The extreme economic hardship faced by the Plaintiffs because of the Defendant's actions caused the Plaintiffs to endure considerable mental and physical suffering and personal injuries as defined by Alabama law.

**WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED**, this Court is of the opinion that each Plaintiff is entitled to an award of compensatory damages in the amount of \$75,000.00. Furthermore, given the gravity, scope, and reprehensibility of the Defendant's conduct, the Court expressly determines that an award of punitive damages is appropriate to punish the Defendant Hollingsworth for his actions, and to deter others from the same or similar misconduct. A punitive damage award of three times the compensatory damages, \$225,000.00, is appropriate under all the facts and circumstances of this case.

It is, therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that a judgment is entered in favor of the Plaintiff, Martha Brackin, and against the Defendant, Michael Jackson Hollingsworth, in the amount of \$75,000.00 for compensatory damages, and \$225,000.00 for punitive damages.

It is also, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that a judgment is entered in favor of the Plaintiff, Lora Ann Purser, and against the Defendant, Michael Jackson



20070718000336810 3/3 \$17.00  
Shelby Cnty Judge of Probate, AL  
07/18/2007 01:40:48PM FILED/CERT

Hollingsworth, in the amount of \$75,000.00 for compensatory damages, and \$225,000.00 for punitive damages.

Costs are to be taxed against Defendant, for which execution may issue.

Ned Michael Suttle, Circuit Court Judge

Michael Jackson Hollingsworth  
P.O. Box 531157  
Birmingham, AL 35253

Frank B. Potts  
Debra H. Coble

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

STATE OF ALABAMA  
LAUDERDALE COUNTY

I certify that the above is a true and correct  
copy of the original on file in this office.

SEAL

  
MISSY HOMAN HIBBETT, CLERK