

1. Case Summary

Dana R. Whitfield (DOB 06/02/1984) was the restrained driver of a sedan struck from behind while stopped in traffic on 03/14/2025 (MC-0001).

She was transported by EMS to Mercy General Hospital ED the same day, where examination showed midline cervical tenderness and bilateral paraspinal spasm; X-ray showed no acute fracture, and she was discharged with diagnoses of cervical and bilateral trapezius strain (MC-0002 to MC-0006).

At PCP follow-up on 03/21/2025 she reported new tingling into the left thumb and index finger, prompting a cervical MRI order (MC-0008, MC-0009).

MRI on 04/10/2025 demonstrated a 3 mm left paracentral C5-C6 disc protrusion impinging the exiting left C6 nerve root, with mild degenerative endplate spurring read as likely pre-existing; the radiologist noted the protrusion cannot be definitively dated by imaging (MC-0011, MC-0012).

Orthopedic consultation on 04/22/2025 diagnosed left C6 radiculopathy, prescribed 12 PT visits, started gabapentin, and referred her to Bayview Pain Management for possible epidural steroid injection (MC-0013 to MC-0015).

She attended 7 of 12 prescribed PT visits between 05/06/2025 and 06/20/2025, improving from pain 5/10 (NDI 44%) to 2-3/10, then self-discontinued citing work schedule (MC-0016 to MC-0023).

After a 75-day gap in treatment, she returned to orthopedics on 09/03/2025 with recurrent neck pain and left-arm symptoms; the pain-management referral had not been scheduled, and it was re-issued with a surgical opinion (ACDF vs. foraminotomy) noted as the next step if injection and PT fail (MC-0024, MC-0025).

The only documented pre-incident treatment in the records provided is a resolved 2022 lumbar (low back) strain; no prior cervical complaints appear in the records reviewed (MC-0010, MC-0008).

2. Provider Index

Facility	Provider(s)	First Seen	Last Seen	Pages
Harborview Family Medicine	Elaine Marsh, MD	08/17/2022	03/21/2025	MC-0008– MC-0010
Citywide EMS	R. Okafor, NREMT-P	03/14/2025	03/14/2025	MC-0001– MC-0001
Mercy General Hospital ED	Alan Chen, MD; K. Daly, RN	03/14/2025	03/14/2025	MC-0002– MC-0006
Mercy General Hospital, Radiology	P. Srinivasan, MD	03/14/2025	03/14/2025	MC-0005– MC-0005
Mercy General Hospital, Patient Accounts	—	03/14/2025	03/14/2025	MC-0027– MC-0027
Bayside Imaging Center	M. Okonkwo, MD	04/10/2025	04/10/2025	MC-0011– MC-0012
North Shore Orthopedic Associates	Robert Klein, MD	04/22/2025	09/03/2025	MC-0013– MC-0025
Northshore Physical Therapy	J. Rivera, DPT	05/06/2025	06/20/2025	MC-0016– MC-0023
Lynn Spine & Wellness Chiropractic	Unknown, DC	Undated	Undated	MC-0026– MC-0026

3. Chronology of Care

Every entry cites the Bates-stamped page (MC-####) in the accompanying record set on which it appears. Flags are factual observations only.

Date	Provider / Facility	Event / Treatment	Flags	Source
08/17/2022	Harborview Family Medicine Elaine Marsh, MD	PRE-INCIDENT record: acute lumbar strain after moving boxes; NSAIDs and 6 PT visits; addendum 10/03/2022 documents resolution. Lumbar (low back), no cervical complaint.	PRE-EXISTING	MC-0010
03/14/2025	Citywide EMS R. Okafor, NREMT-P	EMS response to 2-vehicle MVC; restrained driver struck from behind while stopped; ambulatory on scene, c-collar applied, transported to Mercy General ED. Pain 6/10 neck; denies LOC; GCS 15.		MC-0001
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED K. Daly, RN	ED triage 17:24: neck pain 6/10 radiating to bilateral trapezius, mild posterior headache; PMH notes low back strain (2022), resolved per patient.		MC-0002
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED Alan Chen, MD	ED physician exam: midline cervical tenderness C4-C6, bilateral paraspinal spasm, ROM limited by pain; neuro intact; negative Spurling bilaterally.		MC-0003
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED Alan Chen, MD	Diagnoses: cervical strain (S13.4XXA); bilateral trapezius strain.		MC-0003
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED Alan Chen, MD	ED treatment: ibuprofen 600 mg and cyclobenzaprine 5 mg given; discharged home 19:55 with Rx ibuprofen 600 mg q6h PRN x10d and cyclobenzaprine 5 mg qHS x7d.		MC-0004
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED Alan Chen, MD	Discharge instruction: follow up with PCP within 7 days.		MC-0004
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital, Radiology P. Srinivasan, MD	XR cervical spine 3V: no acute osseous abnormality; straightened cervical lordosis possibly spasm-related; mild degenerative change C5-C6 (disc space narrowing, small anterior osteophyte) noted as pre-existing.		MC-0005
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital ED	ED discharge instructions for cervical strain: ice/heat protocol, medication instructions, PCP follow-up within 1 week, return precautions reviewed.		MC-0006
03/14/2025	Mercy General Hospital, Patient Accounts	Itemized statement for 03/14/2025 ED visit: total facility charges \$2,080.50; EMS transport \$1,240.00 billed separately by Citywide EMS.		MC-0027
03/21/2025	Harborview Family Medicine Elaine Marsh, MD	PCP follow-up: neck pain 5/10, morning headaches, NEW intermittent tingling into left thumb/index finger x3 days; missed 4 days of work; chart notes 08/2022 low back strain (resolved) and no prior neck complaints.		MC-0008
03/21/2025	Harborview Family Medicine Elaine Marsh, MD	MRI cervical spine ordered for new left C6-distribution paresthesias.		MC-0009
03/21/2025	Harborview Family Medicine Elaine Marsh, MD	Work note: modified duty, no lifting over 10 lb, x2 weeks.		MC-0009
04/10/2025	Bayside Imaging	MRI C-spine findings: C5-C6 3 mm left		MC-0011