



WANTING SOMETHING MORE Rising Stars Darren Penn and Jeff Harris formed Harris Penn & Lowry, with offices in Atlanta and Savannah, to focus on their passion — rebuilding shattered lives. The firm specializes in representing people who have suffered catastrophic injuries or death caused by defective products or the negligence of others. “When you’re representing individuals, this one case is everything to them. You’re taking a tragic situation and trying to put the pieces back together,” says Penn of the firm’s emphasis on its clients. The partners also meticulously prepare each case for trial. “Large corporations only take you seriously when

they know you are ready and willing to go to trial,” adds Harris.

REBUILDING SHATTERED LIVES

SATISFIED CLIENTS Lori Hamby-Martinez, a client the firm represented during a fight to prove auto-giant DaimlerChrysler’s guilt in the death of her young daughter Madisor, was struck by how her attorneys took her phone calls every time she dialed. “They didn’t give me the cold shoulder,” she says. Hamby-Martinez was astonished by her lawyers’ accomplished trial techniques. “They shocked us with the things that came up. The jury was like,

‘Wow.’ I could see it on their faces,” she says. In that March 2006 federal court verdict, DaimlerChrysler was ordered to pay Hamby-Martinez \$3.4 million.

NOTEWORTHY CASES Apart from the victory against DaimlerChrysler attributed to defective manufacturing, other notable successes involving Harris and Penn include verdicts and settlements against other major automakers for selling defective vehicles, a trucking company for a dangerous driver, bad faith against a large insurance company, a medical air transport company for a helicopter crash, a doctor for committing malpractice, and a multimillion-dollar judgment against a corporation for committing fraud against its shareholders.

DYNAMIC DUO Penn and Harris hold identical views on which cases to accept and how to build their legal arguments. Pairing up for trial, they hit the courtroom in a tag-team style. “I’m the laid-back one, and Jeff has a much more energetic approach,” Penn says.

Moving toward their goal of someday handling only catastrophic child injury and death cases, the attorneys have built their reputation by trying personal injury cases, especially ones involving automobiles and airplanes, consumer fraud and business litigation. The two hope to leave an imprint deeper and more longstanding than any one case. Harris says one win can be symbolic for many. “If a manufacturer is selling defective products and putting millions of people at risk, with each case I feel we are acting on behalf of the public’s interest.”

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