

... (supporting case of ...)
Cross Ref: Recall 600 (See PR file)

D R A F T

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is in response to Blake C. Erskine's letter in the February 23, 1979, issue. On behalf of Remington, I would like to set the record straight on several points. First of all, the 6.8 million dollar product liability settlement was negotiated by Remington's insurance companies, who have full authority to settle cases without Remington's approval, and who consider many factors in addition to the merits of the case when making their decision on settlement. Remington never believed, nor does it believe now, that the accident paralyzing the Austin, Texas, claimant was caused by a defective product. Remington believes the accident was the result of unsafe gun handling; the act of attempting to unload a gun in a vehicle, with the safety off and the muzzle pointed in the direction of someone or something the gun handler did not intend to shoot.

It is not true that a Remington official handled the accident rifle in the same manner as the plaintiff's son said he handled it, and the gun discharged. In fact, if the son's deposition is correct on how he handled the rifle on the day of the accident, the gun could not have fired without the trigger having been pulled immediately before discharge. Remington has recalled the model rifle under discussion, primarily because the publicity given the Texas case has undercut the public's confidence in the

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1 of 1