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## **\$14.5 Million Miami Verdict in Case With 100 Photos**

July 24, 2025 By Lisa Willis What You Need to Know

- The assault survivor helped build an international business before the attack.
- The defendant allegedly systematically divested assets for years, attempting to avoid financial responsibility.
- The case was litigated for nearly 15 years before the July 2025 trial.



Evan Stroman, left, and Gary Davidson, right, of Diaz Reus International Law Firm in Miami. Courtesy photos

A Miami verdict has concluded 15 years of litigation involving allegations of assault, and fraudulent transfers across multiple countries, as a Miami-Dade jury awarded \$14.5 million to a Venezuelan businesswoman, post-divorce.

The case centers on a Venezuelan couple in *Mireya Christina Cambero Cordero V. Jose Fernando De Matos Rebolledo*, in Miami-Dade Circuit Court.

The complaint alleges the couple built a successful meat-distribution business in South America before relocating to Miami and investing millions in real estate, prior to divorce.

However, an alleged brutal assault took place before the dissolution of the marriage, which became the focus of the civil suit years later, leading to a multimillion-dollar outcome for the plaintiff.

## <u>Read the complaint here</u>

The complaint alleged that in March 2011, De Matos sexually assaulted Cambero Cordero. The attorneys representing the plaintiff described the alleged incident as gruesome: "The injuries were severe, Mireya Cambero ends up at a hospital at Jackson Memorial." Lawyers showed jurors medical records detailing the extent of the injuries.

Attorneys Gary Davidson & Evan Stroman, partners at Miami's Diaz Reus & Targ, claimed the assault was part of a long history of abuse.

"He put a gun in her mouth while she was eight months pregnant," Stroman said.

Ibrahim Amir also assisted on the legal team.

After filing for divorce, which was legally settled in both the U.S. and Venezuela, Cambero pursued a civil lawsuit for assault and battery, among other allegations.

Attorneys alleged De Matos began transferring assets to avoid potential judgment shortly after being served with the lawsuit. They argued at trial that the defendant divested himself of his various assets through a series of alleged fraudulent transfers.

"First to his older daughter by another marriage, and then there's a process over the next 10 years whereby not only does he do the transfers go to [one daughter], but thereafter they go to a younger daughter who comes of age over that period of time, who is a child of the De Matos-Cambero marriage. Then it morphs into another level, where they start transferring property to brand new companies that never existed before, occurring within a few years of the trial of this case in 2025," Davidson claimed.

The defendant won the marital home in the divorce, but it was deemed an asset in the subsequent civil lawsuit. The transfer of this asset was the subject of a fraudulent-transfer claim in the civil lawsuit.

Counsel for De Matos is Gustavo J. García-Monte of Gustavo J. García-Montes, in Miami, and Manny Mesa of MESA LLP, Coral Gables, represented the remainder of the defendants.

Neither attorney responded to email requests for comment by press time.

"Even though he's the designated owner [of the home] under the divorce decree, you're not permitted as the owner thereafter to undertake fraudulent transfers of your property, and it becomes fraudulent based upon the decision he made and then acted upon to transfer assets out of his name into the name of other companies and other people, whether it's his children or a company," Davidson said of the defendant. "You're exposed to the fraudulent transfer statute in Florida for liability for those actions."

The jury found Cambero's testimony credible in awarding the 8-figure sum.

"We had over 100 plus photographs, ... medical records from Jackson Memorial... indicating that 24 hours later she was given morphine, had lacerations on her labia and scrapes in her anus."

When asked about the amount, Davidson stated they were "stunned, including the other side, in terms of the amount that they awarded.

"The initial verdict was \$14.5 million, potentially increasing to over \$20 million with prejudgment interest," Davidson said.

The attorneys' greatest challenge was explaining the fraudulent transfers. "We were able to summarize what these transfers look like through a series of charts... very clear for the jury to see how these things... were all being moved and shifted from one person to the next," Davidson said. "The case ultimately revealed a pattern of abuse and financial manipulation."

As Stroman summarized, "The jury could see who was the credible witness and which story was being told in an incredible way." The case is not yet final, with potential appeal options remaining, but the jury's comprehensive understanding of both the assault and fraudulent transfers was a significant victory for the attorneys and their client.

The civil verdict includes damages not only for the physical assault, but also for intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, and an international web of fraudulent transfers and conspiracy involving assets moved from the U.S. to Venezuela and Colombia, the attorneys said.

Davidson said that if the defendant appeals this verdict, it would require a significant amount of money upfront.

He said, "The other side has the option right now to appeal, and if they do, if they want to prevent assets being seized and so forth, in the meantime, they will have to post a sizable bond to do that, given the verdict