

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HILLSBOROUGH, SS
NORTHERN DISTRICT

SUPERIOR COURT

Crystal Sorey, as Administratrix of the
Estate of Harmony Montgomery

v.

Adam Montgomery

Case No. 216-2025-CV-00680

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

This wrongful death action against Adam Montgomery, initiated by Crystal Sorey as Administratrix for the Estate of Harmony Montgomery, was filed on July 28, 2025 (Case Index #1), and the Court issued a Summons on Complaint (Case Index #2), ordering the defendant to file an Appearance or otherwise Answer/Respond to the Complaint on or before September 18, 2025.

Plaintiff provided adequate Proof of Service of the Summons and Complaint upon defendant through an Affidavit of Service on or about September 11, 2025, and Motion for Late Entry (Case Index #4 and 7). Defendant failed to Appear or otherwise Answer/Respond to the Complaint on or before September 18, 2025.

This Court entered a Notice of Default against the defendant on October 27, 2025 (Case Index #8). Defendant failed to respond to that Notice within 10 days of its issuance.

On November 7, 2025, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Entry of Final Default (Case Index #9) and mailed a copy of it to defendant. Defendant failed to respond to the Motion

for Entry of Final Default and the Court granted Final Default against the defendant on November 25, 2025. [A Hearing on Damages was held on April 10, 2026. As requested by the Court, an Affidavit of Service was filed by petitioner on April 13, 2026. Doc. 31.](#)

Under New Hampshire law, a default admits all the material allegations of the Complaint. Cole v. Hobson, 143 N.H. 14, 16 (1998)(“A default admits all the material allegations of the writ”). Therefore, based on the well-plead allegations of the Complaint and the record provided by the plaintiff, the Court finds the defendant adjudged civilly liable on the count of intentionally causing Harmony’s death.

After default, the only issue left is the amount of damages to be assessed by the Court. Id. While there is no fixed standard for calculating damages in this type of case, based on RSA 556:12, plaintiff’s justification for her request is supported by a reasoned approach, including New Hampshire case law, jury awards in other egregious cases, and other useful resources in the record. Recoverable damages include the pain and suffering Harmony endured during and up to her death by injuries intentionally inflicted by the defendant, as well as damages for loss of life, economic loss, and enhanced compensatory damages for the wanton, malicious, and oppressive conduct of the defendant intentionally causing Harmony’s death.

For the foregoing reasons, and supported by the record submitted to the Court, including the Memorandum of Law in Support of Damages with exhibits, Plaintiff’s Motion for Final Judgment is GRANTED and Final Judgment against Adam Montgomery shall be entered as follows:

1. The plaintiff shall be awarded \$2,984,000 in economic loss damages;
2. The plaintiff shall be awarded \$10,000,000 for non-economic damages;

3. The plaintiff shall be awarded \$2,500,000 for enhanced compensatory damages; and
4. The plaintiff shall be awarded \$7,311.02 for costs.

The final judgment against Adam Montgomery is entered in the **total amount of \$15,491,311.02.**

SO ORDERED.



Honorable Michael A. Klass

May 6, 2026

Judge of Superior Court

Clerk's Notice of Decision
Document Sent to Parties
on 05/07/2026