

October 16, 2025

TEXAS

HARRIS COUNTY

INTENTIONAL TORTS

face/nose - face; face, bruise; facial laceration

Defense denied committing assault on plaintiff

AMOUNT	\$0.00
CASE	Denia Tuma v. Roberto Edgar Guerra and Advance Services, No. 2019-00661
COURT	Harris County District Court, 80th, TX
JUDGE: DATE	Sonya Aston 10/16/2025
PLAINTIFF ATTORNEY(S)	Eric D. Nielsen; The Nielsen Law Firm, P.C.; Houston TX for Denia Tuma Andrew T. Becker; The Nielsen Law Firm, P.C.; Houston TX for Denia Tuma
DEFENSE ATTORNEY(S)	Spencer G. Markle; Markle Law, PLLC; Houston, TX for Roberto Edgar Guerra, Advanced Services

FACTS & ALLEGATIONS In January 2017, plaintiff Denia Tuma and her boyfriend, Roberto Guerra, had an argument at Guerra's home, where they both lived. She alleged that he became violent. Tuma fled and called 911, after which Guerra was arrested. He subsequently pleaded guilty to deadly conduct. Tuma claimed a forehead laceration, a black eye and emotional trauma.

Tuma sued Guerra for assault. She also sued his business, Advanced Services, but later stipulated that it was not a legal entity apart from Guerra.

Tuma alleged that, during their argument, Guerra pulled her hair, struck her across the face with the back of his hand, smashed a

wine glass against her forehead and put a gun to her head and pulled the trigger.

Guerra denied the allegations and argued that Tuma was embellishing the story. Regarding the forehead laceration, he said it occurred when she lost her balance and hit her head on a wine glass.

Guerra counterclaimed for theft, alleging that Tuma had stolen money from his business bank account and that she had stolen dogs from him, as well.

Tuma was convicted of an unrelated theft in July 2025. She was therefore incarcerated during the Guerra trial and testified by deposition only.

INJURIES/DAMAGES Tuma went to an emergency room on the night of the argument and was treated for a forehead laceration. She claimed that she also sustained a black eye and ongoing emotional trauma, but she had no treatment after the ER visit.

Tuma sought damages for past physical pain, past mental anguish and past and future disfigurement. She also sought punitive damages.

Guerra alleged that Tuma had stolen about \$36,000 from his business bank account. He also alleged that she stole his American Pit Bulls, which he said were worth \$54,000.

RESULT: The jury rendered a defense verdict. Specifically, it did not find that Guerra committed an assault against Tuma.

The jury also did not find that Tuma committed theft of Guerra's money or dogs.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: This report is based on information that was provided by Guerra's counsel. Additional information was gleaned from court documents. Tuma's counsel did not respond to the reporter's phone calls.