

Local

Suit filed in hit-and-run that killed teen girl

THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN

A wrongful death lawsuit was filed Wednesday on behalf of the mother of a teenage girl struck and killed as she was walking home from a friend's house by an alleged drunken driver who fled the scene.

Attorneys at Chain Cohn Stiles filed the lawsuit against the driver, Isaac Macias, 20, and passenger Ibrahim Essa Gomes, 19. Also listed as defendants are Exelon Generation Company LLC and First Solar Inc., who employed Macias at the time of the crash and entrusted him with the pickup he was driving that day.

The pickup struck Leslie Elaine Balderrama, 15, as she walked along Highway 202 west of Sage Lane on Oct. 10, 2015, according to California Highway Patrol reports.

Macias told investigators the next day that he had been drinking and hit



CONTRIBUTED

Leslie Balderrama

someone but he didn't remember much about it.

Gomes told investigators he got out of the vehicle after they struck Balderrama and stood over her between 30 and 60 seconds.

"She didn't look like she got that messed up," the reports say he told investigators.

Gomes got back in the

truck and they drove to Macias' residence. They didn't call 911 or notify any law enforcement about the injured girl, the reports say.

Criminal charges have not been filed against Macias and Gomes.

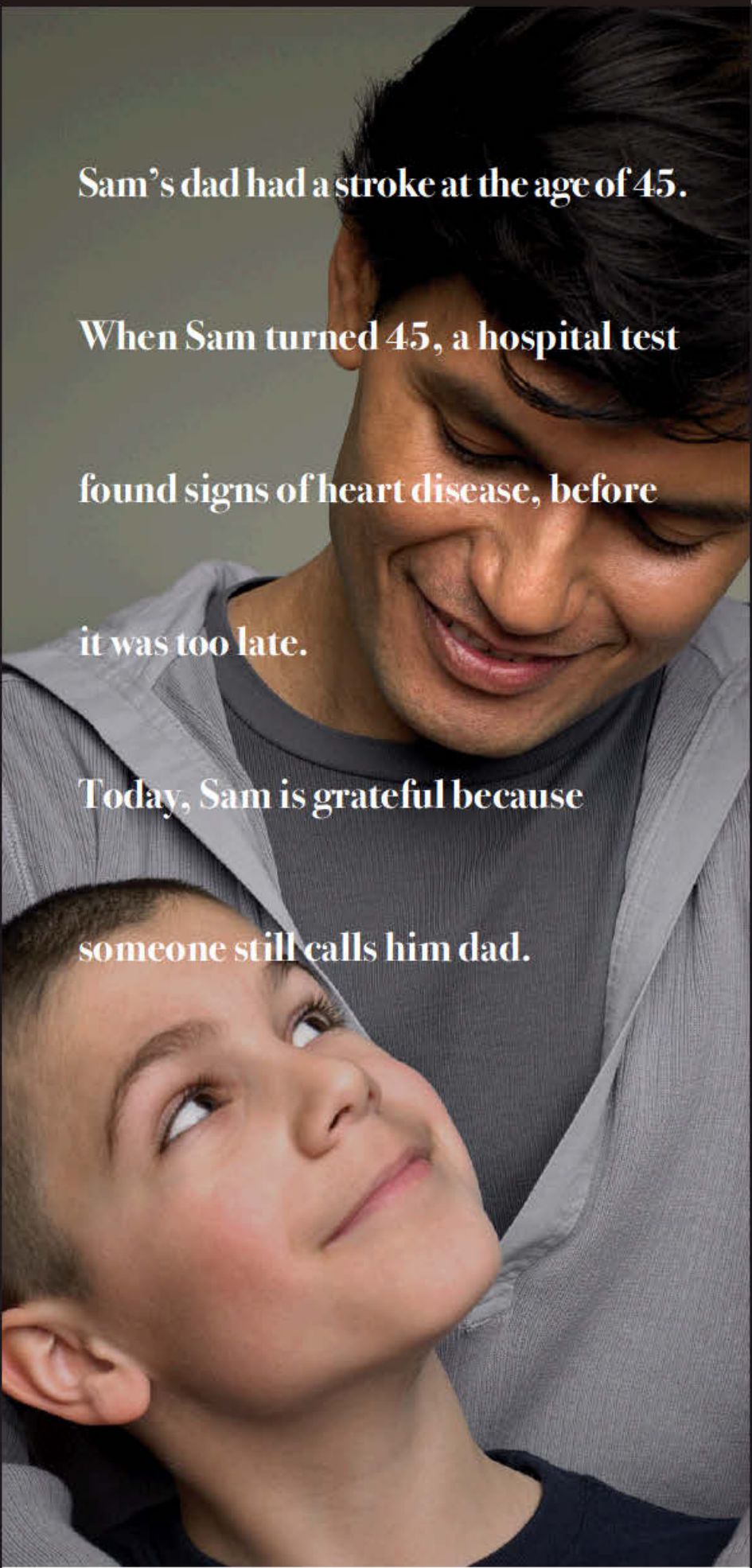
The lawsuit seeks compensatory and punitive damages, funeral and burial expenses and court costs.

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