

Corboy & Demetrio Secures \$2.75 Million Medical Malpractice Settlement

Failure to Order CT Scan and Operate Results in Death of 59 Year Old

Chicago, Illinois (November 18, 2009) Lutheran General Hospital has agreed to settle for \$2.75 million a lawsuit brought by the family of a man who died after being treated at the Hospital. The Honorable William Maddux of the Circuit Court of Cook County approved the settlement on November 17, 2009. The family was represented by medical malpractice attorney Kenneth Lumb of the Chicago personal injury law firm, Corboy & Demetrio., P.C.

On August 10, 2009, Joseph Weissmann, 59 years old, was taken to Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois, after he suffered a head injury from an unwitnessed fall at a party. A CT scan revealed a small left temporal hemorrhagic contusion and Mr. Weissmann was admitted after midnight to the surgical intensive care unit for neurological observation.

Throughout the morning, Mr. Weissmann began to experience subtle changes in his vital signs and mental status, potentially indicative of increasing intracranial pressure. Ultimately these subtle changes resulted in a dilated pupil shortly after 10 a.m. which soon became fixed.

The Plaintiff alleged that the findings at approximately 10 a.m. required the nurses to contact a neurosurgeon who would have ordered an immediate CT scan and taken Mr. Weissmann to surgery. The nurse on duty testified that she notified both Dr. Martin Herman, the attending neurosurgeon, and Dr. Robert Sulkowski, the attending trauma surgeon. Both physicians denied they were notified.

Mr. Weissmann did not receive another CT scan until 2 p.m., at which point his intracranial hemorrhage had progressed markedly and his likelihood for recovery became virtually nil. He died in the evening of August 11, 2009.

"Joseph Weissmann was the heart and soul of his family," said the family's attorney, Ken Lumb. "His untimely and preventable death has robbed his family of his love, support and care. The family is relieved to finally obtain justice and closure to this tragedy."

Rosemary Weissmann, Special Administrator of the Estate of Joseph Weissmann, Deceased vs. Martin Herman, M.D., Jerry Bauer, M.D., S.C., d/b/a Center of Brain and Spine Surgery, S.C., Robert Sulkowski, M.D., North Suburban Surgical Consultants, Advocate Health and Hospital Corporation d/b/a Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, and Advocate Medical Group n/k/a AMG of Illinois, Inc. Case number 02 L 4879.