

# Nursing home settles lawsuit

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A South Holland nursing home has agreed to pay \$925,000 to settle a lawsuit in which the family of an elderly Calumet City woman claimed she died of complications from severely infected bed sores.

Lottie Chubinski, who was 86 when she died in November 2001, developed the bed sores and became malnourished and dehydrated as a result of neglect at Manorcare at South Holland Nursing Home, said family attorneys Steven Levin and Michael Bonamarte IV. She lived there from June 9 to Sept. 28, 2001, after she was injured in a fall at her home.

Despite repeated complaints by family members to the home's staff, Chubinski's condition deteriorated, the attorneys said. One of the sores was so bad it caused infection in a bone and in her blood, leaving her unable to either walk or undergo physical therapy, according to the lawsuit. Levin called Chubinski's case "a classic example of institutional neglect."

"The facility was understaffed, inadequately supervised and insufficiently trained," Levin said. "As a result, resident care suffered. Lottie Chubinski suffered."

The settlement was approved Tuesday by Cook County Judge Lynn Egan, Levin said.

Ellen Gibson, an attorney who represented Manorcare, confirmed the settlement but declined further comment.

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