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**IDPH cites ManorCare for neglect--85-year-old resident suffers needlessly and dies**

Chicago, IL – Steven M. Levin and Michael F. Bonamarte of the Chicago-based law firm Levin & Perconti filed a lawsuit today, September 12, 2007, in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois on behalf of Roberta Cirantineo (Chicago), the daughter of Nancy Cirantineo, a resident who suffered needlessly as a result of the neglect and abuse she experienced at ManorCare at Palos Heights (Palos Heights, IL). Nancy died on September 28, 2006 from complications of her injuries. **In a detailed report from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), ManorCare was cited for failing to prevent Nancy Cirantineo’s mistreatment, neglect and abuse by their own staff members. Specific examples of staff mistreatment and neglect included delayed medical treatment, failure to provide necessary care and services, failure to provide necessary treatment to prevent existing pressure sores from worsening and failure to prevent the development of new sores.**

Nancy was a resident of ManorCare at Palos Heights from October 29, 2005 through November 12, 2005. She was admitted to the facility with diagnoses including dementia, bilateral hip replacement and a Stage II pressure sore on her sacrum. Although Nancy’s family was promised that ManorCare could address all her needs, within only 2 weeks of residency, the pressure sore on her sacrum was allowed to progress to an infected Stage IV ulcer.

Attorney Steven Levin said, “ManorCare’s staff failed to follow physician orders and delayed Nancy’s medical treatment which caused her needless pain and suffering. In one

instance, despite a physician’s order, ManorCare staff delayed medical treatment for Nancy’s abnormally low blood pressure for 22 hours.”

Levin added, “In yet another example, ManorCare delayed Nancy’s medical treatment for 4 days after she experienced abnormal lab results and developed symptoms of an increased heart rate, abnormally low blood pressure, increased confusion, and fever. As a result, she had to be transferred to an acute care hospital with excessive fluid around the lungs, partial lung collapse, pneumonia and fecal impaction.”

The complaint also alleged that Nancy developed multiple and worsening pressure sores because ManorCare failed to provide appropriate treatment and care.

Attorney Michael Bonamarte said, “ManorCare staff failed to assess Nancy’s risk for developing pressure sores, implement a care plan, appropriately treat Nancy’s existing pressure sores and keep Nancy well-nourished and hydrated. Instead, Nancy was malnourished, dehydrated and allowed to lie in her own waste, all of which impeded the healing process. One of the sores was allowed to progress so quickly that it became infected and Nancy had to be hospitalized for surgical debridement and long-term antibiotic therapy.”

Steve Levin concluded, “The report by the Illinois Department of Public Health revealed that there were multiple breakdowns in communication and coordination amongst the staff at ManorCare that resulted in denying Nancy necessary medical treatment. She suffered needlessly as a result of Manor Care’s neglect. We commend the Illinois Department of Public Health for their thorough investigation of Nancy’s case.”

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