

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

Scathing Report Highlights Dangers To Young Patients In Chicago Psychiatric Hospital

Posted by **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on June 02, 2011

Under-staffing and poor supervision seem to be the conclusions reached by experts from the University of Illinois At Chicago behind the continuous pattern of **sexual abuse and assault** cases occurring at **Lakeshore Hospital**, a well-know Chicago psychiatric hospital catering to younger patients.

Analyzing reports of **sexual abuse** from a recent investigative series by the **Chicago Tribune**, the report carefully looks at the circumstances behind the reports of rape or sexual sexual perpetrated upon juvenile patients at the facility. Amongst the conclusions reached by the studies authors:

- Treatment plans that fail to address discharge information for patients
- Inconsistent supervision of patients by staff
- Medication errors
- Ineffective corrective plans that were routinely submitted by the facility in response to previous incidents at the facility
- Under-staffing; in some circumstances one employee was responsible for supervising more than 20 patients

Jonathan Rosenfeld ffers legal services relating to: birth injuries, medical malpractice, day care abuse, foster care abuse, swimming pool injuries, automobile accidents, school bus accidents, dog bites, food poisoning, product liability, amusement park accidents and clergy abuse. For more information please visit Child Injury Laws Blog (<http://www.childinjurylaws.com/>) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757. (www.rosenfeldinjurylawyers.com.)

Certainly, any alleged sexual abuse of hospital patients is reason for concern, but I find the fact that the operators of Lakeshore Hospital have a pattern of similarly disturbing occurrences occurring at other facilities that they operate particularly alarming.

As cited to in a recent news article on the troubled facility, Lakeshore Hospital is owned by Signature Healthcare Services, where similar allegations have been made against its sister facility in California. Problems similar to those reported at Lakeshore were reported at Las Encinas hospital where a series of suspicious deaths and patient assaults were discovered in a similar newspaper investigation.

Though Lakeshore disputes the conclusions made in the report, the findings are enough to prompt officials from Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to step up their investigations at the facility to help ensure the safety of this exceptionally vulnerable group.

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