

LEGAL NEWS – presented by Attorney G. Randolph Rice, Jr.

What are Your Legal Rights in Regards to the St. Joseph Medical Center Stent Case?

It seems like every day there's a story about Stents and you may have asked yourself; what is a Stent? A Stent is a mesh tube that doctors place in a patient's artery to help improve blood flow and prevent blockage. In 2009 St. Joseph Medical Center sent letters to almost 600 patients informing them that they may have received an unneeded Stent. Patients contacted lawyers, including my office, and wanted to find out what their legal rights are if they received an unneeded Stent. The answer is; you have a legal right to seek compensation for damages that may have been cause by the unneeded Stent. My office is already involved in the filing of over 100 claims against the hospital and Dr. Midei and we can review your case for free to determine if your case should be added to the claims.

Most recently in the news, St. Joseph Medical Center agreed to pay a settlement of \$22 million in a federal investigation alleging kickbacks to a medical group. A number of my current St. Joseph Stent clients have asked me:

“What Does This \$22 Million Settlement Mean For My Pending Stent Claim?” The federal government alleged that St. Joseph Medical Center was paying a medical group (MidAtlantic Cardiovascular Associates) a substantial amount of money to send their cardiovascular, heart and potential stent patients to St. Joseph Medical Center. St. Joseph would then perform expensive stent procedures and collect the money from either insurance companies or Medicare. In addition to the kickbacks, the Federal government was seeking reimbursement for the unnecessary stent procedures performed and billed to Medicare and Federal insurance. My current stent clients can look at this decision by St. Joseph as a positive step for their case. It shows that St. Joseph is willing to resolve and compensate for mistakes it may have made. Even though it doesn't settle the current patient stent claims, it pushes us a little closer to settlement with St. Joseph.

What If You Had a Stent Performed by Dr. Mark Midei? Call my office at (410) 288-2900 to schedule a free review of your Stent procedure. Our cardiologist will review your procedure for free and determine if you received an unneeded Stent. In addition to St. Joseph, we are investigating unneeded Stents performed at Union Memorial Medical Center. Even though Union Memorial has not sent out letters, we are offering a free review of Union Memorial Patient Stent procedures.

G. Randolph Rice, Jr., Esquire
Law Offices of G. Randolph Rice, Jr., LLC
6914 Holabird Avenue
Dundalk, Maryland 21222-1747
(410) 288-2900 - Available 24/7
www.RiceLawMD.com
www.StJosephStents.com
www.UnionMemorialStent.com
RiceLawMD@gmail.com

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