

## **New York Civil Rights Violation Lawyer Questions Brooklyn College Decision to Commit Student to Mental Institution**

**A student is falsely imprisoned in a mental institution after she complains about a hidden camera in her apartment.**

NEW YORK, NEW YORK – January 19, 2011 Chinemerem Eze, a Nigerian student at Brooklyn College, alleges that the school began the process to have her institutionalized against her will after she complained about her landlord. She had told the school that her off-campus landlord had hidden a camera in her home. Her concern was labeled “paranoia” and she was sent to a mental hospital, which kept her for about 2 weeks.

This incident of claimed [false imprisonment](#) happened in December 2008, according to a lawsuit she’s filed in New York Supreme Court. Honors student, Eze, is accusing the college, the security guards, the school psychologist, and the CUNY System as a whole of [violating her civil rights](#), negligence, and causing her emotional distress.

Eze claims that while she was held at the institution she missed her final exams, that Brooklyn College refused to let her retake them and that she wound up losing a \$65,000 scholarship she’d received from the school.

"Confining someone against their will in a way which affects the person’s freedom of movement, without proper authority, is called false imprisonment. [False imprisonment](#) can be a crime and, if proven, can also be the basis for a suit in New York,” [civil rights violation lawyer](#) David Perecman said.

According to Eze, her landlord was secretly filming her in her apartment, and rather than go to the police, she went to the school. The school psychologist was brought in and, after asking her a few questions, the psychologist called EMS and had the student committed to Kings County Psychiatric Hospital.

After she was released, Eze discovered that there actually was a hidden camera in her apartment. It is unknown if the school knew that there have been several other reported incidents of tenants discovering their landlords were spying on them.

Of significance, in 2010 Eze won a \$110,000 settlement against the Health and Hospitals Corp. for damages related to this [New York civil rights violation incident](#). According to *Campus Safety* magazine, a Kings County Hospital physician told her she had to admit herself to the hospital or she would be committed involuntarily, which would extend her stay.

“[Falsely imprisoning someone is a serious act](#), whether it is for an hour or a day. In this woman’s case, it appears as if she was falsely imprisoned for two weeks. If so, she will be entitled to compensation for the embarrassment, pain and suffering caused by the incident,” said [New York false imprisonment lawyer](#), Perecman.

David Perecman and lawyers at the The Perecman Firm represent individuals in bringing [claims for false imprisonment, false arrest, and civil rights violations](#). Among his many court victories in New York, civil rights violation lawyer Perecman won a \$600,000\* verdict for a woman who was falsely detained by department store security guards.

**About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:**

For the past 30 years, the New York false imprisonment, excessive force by police, police negligence, and civil rights violation lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have handled all types of cases including civil rights violations. David Perecman, founder of the Firm, is a Board Director and the past Secretary and Treasurer of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (NYSTLA) and a chair of its Labor Law Committee. Mr. Perecman's achievements have brought him recognition as an Honoree in the National Law Journal's Hall of Fame, in New York Magazine's "The Best Lawyers in America" and The New York Times Magazine "New York Super Lawyers, Metro Edition" for the years 2007-2010.

The Firm has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Among the more recent victories, Mr. Perecman won a \$15 million verdict\*\* for a construction accident, a \$5.35 million dollar verdict\*\*\* for an automobile accident, \$680,000 for a woman injured by a bus\*\*\*\*, and a \$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice\*\*\*\*\*.

\*settled after verdict for \$90,000

\*\*later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million

\*\*\*later settled for \$3.5 million

\*\*\*\* later settled for \$500,000

\*\*\*\*\*total potential payout

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