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L&P Obtains Two Wrongful Death Verdicts in Two Days for Elderly Clients

CHICAGO, November 7, 2012- Last week, Levin & Perconti obtained two notable jury verdicts in [wrongful death lawsuits](#) on behalf of elderly clients. “We had a veteran in one courtroom, and a rookie in another, and in both cases we succeeded in delivering to justice to elderly victims of negligence,” observed founding partner Steve Levin.

Late Thursday night, a Cook County jury awarded \$584,301.50 to the surviving family of 88-year-old Anna Blokh, in a medical malpractice suit against Northwest Community Hospital (*Case # 2009 L 003086*). Blokh fell off a table in the hospital’s radiology department and suffered injuries. The jury found that Blokh’s death nine months later was caused by the impact of her fall injuries. Margaret Battersby Black sat first chair, and Cari Silverman sat second chair during the trial. This was the first trial for both attorneys.

The suit was filed in 2009. The Honorable Judge Daniel Lynch of the Circuit Court of Cook County presided over the trial which began on October 29, with closing arguments on November 1. The Defense admitted liability but denied damages. Prior to trial, Judge Lynch ruled that almost \$250,000 in medical bills that the hospital waived after admitting liability could not come into evidence during trial.

On Friday, [veteran nursing home lawyer John Perconti](#), first chair, and associate Patricia Gifford, second chair, obtained a \$645,000 nursing home verdict (*Case # 07 L 010302*). Under the [Illinois Nursing Home Care Act](#), the defendants must also pay the plaintiff’s attorneys’ fees. Perconti and Gifford represented the surviving family of 81-year-old Emilio Opio in a suit against The Imperial Grove Pavilion in Chicago. Opio suffered a subdural hematoma, or collection of blood on the surface of the brain, as a result of a fall at the defendant facility and died nine months later from complications linked to these injuries.

The lawsuit was filed in October 2007. The Honorable Judge Susan Ruscitti Grussel of the Circuit Court of Cook County presided over the trial which began on October 17.

“Not many nursing home cases go to trial,” noted Perconti. “Patricia and I secured a verdict in our client’s favor, despite the Defense bringing in a well-known trial lawyer from Florida to argue their case.” He added, “This case also involved an unwitnessed fall, making it challenging to prove negligence.”

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