

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Levin & Perconti

325 North LaSalle Street, Suite 450

Chicago, IL 60654

312-332-2872



Cook County Jury Awards \$1M Verdict in Nursing Home Neglect Case

October 9, 2009- Chicago- Today, the Honorable John B. Grogan entered judgment on a \$1 million jury verdict in a nursing home negligence case against Lee Manor Nursing Home in Des Plaines, IL. The case involved the death of a nursing home resident who exited a window of the nursing home and died soon after from fall-related injuries. Bryan J. Waldman and Patricia Gifford of the Chicago law firm of Levin & Perconti represented the victim's family during the eight day trial that took place in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

The case was brought on behalf of the wife and son of the decedent, 54-year-old Roberto Garcia, of Des Plaines. Mr. Garcia was admitted to Lee Manor on July 23, 2003. Years before his admission to the nursing home, Mr. Garcia was diagnosed as suffering from chronic paranoid schizophrenia. Additionally, Mr. Garcia was severely blind. Because of these diagnoses, Mr. Garcia required ongoing supervision and monitoring by nursing home staff. The nursing home placed Mr. Garcia on a secured floor where the doors were alarmed and the elevators were keyed. However, the nursing home allowed the windows to open 8 and 1/8th inches, providing Mr. Garcia an avenue to exit. On April 21, 2004, Mr. Garcia fell from a window in his room on the fifth floor of the nursing home and died as a result of his injuries. The jury found that the nursing home was negligent in failing to prevent Mr. Garcia from exiting the window.

After deliberating for over 6 hours, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the amount of \$1 million against Lee Manor Nursing Home. This was the first Illinois trial for Mr. Waldman, who is a past president of the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association and joined Levin & Perconti in November 2008 after practicing law in Michigan for 17 years. It was the first trial for Ms. Gifford, who joined the firm in 2006.

Levin & Perconti is a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, and wrongful death litigation. The lawyers at Levin & Perconti are committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others. Please contact the firm at (312) 332-2872 or visit www.levinperconti.com for more information.

###