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Family Settles Bed Sore Lawsuit with Evergreen Park Nursing Home for \$575,000

CHICAGO, January 9, 2013 – Steven M. Levin, Margaret P. Battersby Black and Cari F. Silverman of Levin & Perconti recently settled a nursing home negligence lawsuit with Evergreen Healthcare Center, located at 10124 South Kedzie in Evergreen Park. The \$575,000 settlement was reached on behalf of Vania Beard for the injuries her grandmother, Samuel Lee Beard, sustained while living at the nursing home. The lawsuit alleged that the facility failed to properly prevent, monitor and treat Ms. Beard’s bed sores, and these injuries contributed to her death.

In February 2007, Ms. Beard, then 77, suffered a stroke and was admitted to a Chicago hospital. She was transferred to Evergreen Healthcare Center two weeks later for rehabilitation, where she was noted to be at high risk for bed sores because she was immobile.

“Every time I went to Evergreen to visit my grandma, I smelled that she had not been changed, I observed that she was never turned, and on one occasion we discovered that her feeding tube was loose from the machine,” recalled Vania Beard. “Every bed sore she developed my family found, not the Evergreen staff members who were paid to take care of her.”

“During her stay at Evergreen, Ms. Beard developed bed sores on her heels and sacrum,” noted Steve Levin. “On each occasion, it was her family, not the nursing staff, who discovered the new sores. Her sores worsened and her overall condition deteriorated. She was hospitalized two months later and diagnosed with sepsis, dehydration and pneumonia.” Ms. Beard died in May 2007 as a result of these injuries.

“The nursing home staff had a duty to turn and reposition Ms. Beard to prevent her from developing bed sores,” said Steve. “During the course of our lawsuit, we also discovered that there were inconsistencies in charting and assessing the progress of

hers wounds. This caused her sores to go unnoticed by nursing home staff until it was too late.”

Levin & Perconti filed a complaint in December 2008 in the Circuit Court of Cook County. The settlement was approved in the Law Division on November 30 by The Honorable Judge Lynn Egan, and was approved by the Probate court on December 28.

About Levin & Perconti

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.

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