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**Levin & Perconti Files a Nursing Home Abuse and Neglect Lawsuit
Against Watseka Rehabilitation Center**

WATSEKA, IL, August 28, 2008 -- Steven M. Levin of the Chicago-based law firm Levin & Perconti filed a nursing home negligence lawsuit in the Circuit Court of Iroquois County yesterday on behalf of Geoffrey Kusman (Beaverville, IL) for the personal injuries sustained by his mother while under the care of the Watseka Rehabilitation Center. Josephine Kusman's injuries were a result of nursing home abuse and neglect and led to her death on September 3, 2007 at the age of 87.

Josephine Kusman was admitted to Watseka Rehabilitation Center on April 25, 2007. Josephine was previously a resident at Watseka for rehabilitation visits and her son Geoffrey believed Watseka could provide Josephine with the care and treatment that he or home health aides were no longer able to provide at home. Watseka failed to assess Josephine's condition, implement a plan to care for her needs, and provide necessary medical services, leading her to develop horrible pressure sores (bed sores) and become malnourished and dehydrated. On June 25, 2007, Josephine was admitted to Iroquois Memorial Hospital with multiple pressure sores, including a sore on her heel that was so infected and gangrenous it required a below-the-knee amputation

According to Josephine's son Geoffrey, he trusted Watseka to provide competent care for his mother and was sadly disappointed with the treatment his mother received. At Watseka, the staff allowed Josephine to lie in her own urine and feces, her call light was frequently not answered, and Geoffrey was not timely informed of Josephine's development of pressure sores. Geoffrey remarked, "The problem at Watseka was that

there were not enough staff members, and those who did work there did not care for the patients. They were completely unaware of what was going on with my mom and surprised to learn about things I would tell them concerning her condition.”

Attorney Steven Levin of Levin & Perconti filed the case. According to Mr. Levin, “Geoffrey trusted the staff at Watseka to provide the care he was no longer able to give his mother. The nursing home violated his trust when they repeatedly neglected Josephine’s medical and personal care needs and caused her to live the last few months of her life in pain and without dignity.”

Josephine Kusman was a longtime Illinois resident, born in Kewanee, IL. She was a stay-at-home mother who loved music and played the organ during Sunday mass at her church in Beaverville, IL every Sunday for 20 years. Josephine was a well-liked member of the community who was active in many women’s organizations, including the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, which she joined after her husband, Menard (deceased), fought in World War II. During the last years of her life, Josephine’s son visited his mother every day to help her with housekeeping and medication needs.

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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