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Family Reaches \$500,000 Settlement in Nursing Home Negligence Lawsuit against Manorcare at Palos Heights East

Chicago- July 13, 2011- Today in the Circuit Court of Cook County, the Honorable Judge Michael Panter approved a \$500,000 nursing home negligence settlement with Manorcare at Palos Heights East for the family of a former resident. Our client's family filed a lawsuit against the nursing home in 2007. Attorneys Michael F. Bonamarte and Margaret P. Battersby of Levin & Perconti in Chicago represented the family.

Our client was a resident of the facility located at 7850 West College Drive in Palos Heights, for only fourteen days, from October 29 to November 12, 2005. Prior to her admission, she lived at home with her husband until she suffered a stroke. After a brief hospitalization, she was admitted to Manorcare at Palos Heights East for rehabilitation, but was expected to return home. Unfortunately, at Manorcare, our client developed a large Stage IV pressure ulcer that required wound care for the rest of her life.

When our client was admitted to the facility, she had a Stage I pressure ulcer, meaning that she had an area of redness on her tailbone, but her skin was intact. Despite her risk for pressure ulcers, staff did not develop a care plan for 11 days and failed to implement pressure relieving techniques including turning and repositioning and a pressure reduction mattress. Once her wound opened, it was unprotected from contaminants and became infected and necrotic. Our client's pressure ulcer never healed, and she lived in pain from her pressure ulcer until her death on September 28, 2006, more than 10 months after she left Manorcare.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) cited Manorcare at Palos Heights East for their failures to provide appropriate pressure ulcer care and treatment to our client, and for failing to monitor the condition of her pressure ulcers. Moreover, the IDPH cited the facility for not providing timely medical care to our client.

Levin & Perconti is a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, and wrongful death litigation. Since 1992, we have obtained over \$400 million in verdicts and settlements for clients. 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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