

Pursuing Justice

After Nursing Home Abuse and Neglect



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Nursing Home Abuse/Neglect

Nursing home abuse and neglect are viewed as some of the most despicable acts in our society. Anytime an individual is harmed, neglected, or taken advantage of, it is extremely unfortunate. This is especially true when the victim is powerless to prevent their ongoing victimization.

Although nursing home abuse and neglect are similar and sometimes occur simultaneously, understanding the difference in them could help you better recognize when your loved one is being victimized.

Abuse is defined as mistreating a person physically, emotionally, or psychologically, while neglect involves the failure to properly care for someone physically or psychologically. Both abuse and neglect carry the potential for devastating effects on their victims.

Types of Nursing Home Abuse

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is typically the easiest to recognize, as visible marks are often left. Physical abuse can occur when a victim is punch, slapped, scratched, pushed, inappropriately restrained, or is otherwise harmed through physical force. Signs of physical abuse can include scars, cuts, scrapes, broken bones, and bruises. All of these signs can be used to help prove that you or a loved one has been the victim of physical abuse. When this kind of abuse occurs, it is important to document any injuries and seek medical attention when necessary.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse involves the intentional causing of emotional distress to the nursing home resident. When an individual is verbally assaulted, humiliated, terrorized, demeaned, or otherwise emotionally mistreated, he or she could have a valid personal injury claim against his or her caregivers. While this type of mistreatment leaves no physical marks, it is important not to underestimate the damage that a victim suffers.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse takes place where non-consensual sexual activity occurs against a nursing home patient. This type of abuse can happen when the victim is forced, deceived, enticed, or otherwise manipulated to participate in sexual activity against their will, or when they were not completely aware of what was taking place.

Financial Abuse

When caregivers at a nursing home take advantage of patients by stealing money or property from them, the patient has been the victim of financial abuse. This type of abuse most often occurs when a victim is tricked or forced into giving up information such as bank account numbers, debit card numbers or PINs, and other private financial information. Financial abuse can also occur when a victim is pressured into changing beneficiaries in a will or on an insurance policy, or modifying their deed.

Types of Nursing Home Neglect

Anytime a nursing home patient does not receive adequate emotional, physical, or medical attention, he or she is a victim of nursing home neglect. Examples of nursing home neglect include:

- Social: Isolating or ignoring the patient, which can lead to depression, deterioration of mental faculties, and even medical concerns.
- Medical: Failing to provide medication, change bandages, treat injuries, etc.
- Basic: Forcing the patient to live in substandard conditions or eat substandard food, leading to a lower quality of life.
- Hygiene: Failing to ensure that the patient has bathed, brushed teeth, and performed other tasks essential to good hygiene. Failure to provide consistent hygienic care can lead to serious medical conditions, as well as a substandard quality of life.

Nursing home neglect could lead to serious mental, medical, health, or hygiene issues. Even a seemingly minor incident of neglect can have a substantial impact on residents, or could be indicative of larger issues. Patients who are neglected could develop mental health disorders, bed sores, infections, and other conditions.

Taking Legal Action against a Nursing Home after Reports of Abuse or Neglect

When you believe that a loved one has been the victim of nursing home abuse or neglect, removing the patient from the nursing home is critical. It is important to prevent any further damage from being done to the patient. Once the patient has been removed from the dangerous environment, you can begin the process of taking legal action against the nursing home.

With the help of a personal injury attorney who has experience representing victims of nursing home abuse and neglect in Florida, you may be able to receive compensation for what you or your loved one has endured. In many cases, the responsible party will attempt to offer the victim of nursing home abuse/neglect a quick settlement. Your attorney can provide you with the necessary information and resources to help you determine if the settlement offer is adequate enough to fairly compensate you and support your long-term needs.

In the event that a fair settlement agreement cannot be reached, your attorney can take your case to civil court, present compelling evidence that supports your claim, and help you receive a favorable verdict at trial.

Lisa S. Levine – Fighting for Compensation after a Nursing Home Patient is Abused or Neglected in Florida

Lisa Levine is a personal injury and medical malpractice attorney in Broward County who has dedicated her legal career to fighting for justice for the wrongs that have been committed against innocent victims due to the negligence or malice of others.

Attorney Levine puts the needs and desires of her clients first. During times of mental, physical, and emotional pain and suffering, Lisa Levine will be a calming and reassuring presence who aims to right the wrongs you have suffered, by helping you receive the compensation you deserve.

After graduating from Brandeis University, Lisa Levine studied law at the University of Miami. After receiving a license to practice law in Florida in 1986, Levine established her private practice and has been serving the state of Florida for over 20 years.

With appearances on television programs such as NBC News, The John Walsh Show, and ABC's Good Morning America, Lisa Levine has become a well-known and recognizable personal injury attorney in Florida. Lisa actively is a member of several organizations such as The Florida Justice Association, Florida Trial Lawyers Association, and The Florida Association for Women Lawyers.

As a dedicated personal injury attorney, Lisa Levine's number one priority is ensuring that victims with valid personal injury claims are fairly compensated. She is a strong supporter of the advancement of women's rights, and works hard to speak for those who may not have a strong enough voice to be heard.