

Case Law Research

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HCS 430/ Legal Issues in Health Care

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October 27, 2014

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Abstract

This article was found in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Dated June 2009. The purpose of this paper will incorporate sufficient background regarding the article and supply major points. Next the paper will discuss legal issues the article involves as well as the conclusion as it will discuss recommendations that could be made regarding the article.

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Facilitating patient choice has been the fundamental goal to palliative care. However, there are many agendas that challenge us to question the true meaning of palliative care now and in the future (Kite and Tate, 2005). Keeping the focus this article found in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, June 28, 2009, entitled. The System ignored a mother's plea: mother died. For the purpose of this paper it will provide background of the article and major points. Then it will discuss any legal issues included in the article. The conclusion will identify recommendations that are available.

This article is concerning a case which involves the Georgia Regional Hospital located in Atlanta. In January 2009, a patient Na Young, was released from the hospital, Young had a history of psychotic behavior. The patient made a request not to be released and refused to put her signature of the release forms.

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The brother of the patient also made a plea to the hospital to reconsider his sister release and refused to pick her up that week hoping the hospital would reconsider. Prior to Young being submitted into the facility she was physically abusive to her mother and informed the doctor she would kill her mother if she is released from the facility. Although Young informed the nurses and doctors of her intentions they still released her. On February 10 which was 12 days after her released Young threw gasoline on her mother and set fire to her. This of many cases was not the first in which a patient was released from this mental facility against their will. In the year of 1990, there were another patient by the name James Calvin Brady, was released from this facility by the same doctor and later went to the Perimeter Mall and discharged a weapon killing one and critically injuring at least four others.

According to Alan (2009), the Justice Department began investigating Georgia state hospitals in 2007. After several articles were found in the paper revealing dozens of deaths from neglect and abuse. The hospital sent a 63-page letter to Gov. Perdue, incorporating details of how the hospital's substandard medical care plan to discharge patients based on inadequate assessments.