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CIRIGNANI HELLER & HARMAN

\$10.9 Million in 3 Settlements for Emergency Room Medical Malpractice Case

Chicago-December 3, 2014- The family of a 2-year-old boy, who suffered permanent brain damage while awaiting treatment for bacterial meningitis, reached a \$7.5 million settlement with a suburban Chicago hospital. The settlement was entered by Cook County Circuit Judge James N. O’Hara. Combined with two earlier settlements the family’s total settlement has reached \$10.9 million. The family was represented by attorneys William A. Cirignani and James C. Harman.

In December of 2008 Wendy Warmowski took her son, then 2, to the emergency room after calling his pediatrician. After initially recognizing the symptoms of bacterial meningitis the emergency room staff failed to treat it. Cirignani describes the next few hours as a “cascade of errors” noting that it was almost 2 hours before a doctor came to treat the child. After seeing the patient the doctor ordered the antibiotics. The order was written in the “physician order” section of the medical chart. The ER nurses failed to act on the order because they followed a policy in which they only acted on doctor’s orders that were written on the ER sheet of a medical chart. After sitting in the hospital for almost nine hours the child was finally given the antibiotic he needed when he was brought to a different area of the hospital.

The now 8-year-old boy suffered severe brain injury and will grow up never developing beyond the mentality of a toddler. The settlements in this case are going toward the constant supervision and rehabilitation that the child will need as he grows older. The family can now rest assured that he will be financially supported for decades to come especially as they age. “My clients were in tears,” said Cirignani, “This is a good way of taking care of someone who is brain-injured and very young.”

About Cirignani Heller & Harman, LLP:

A Chicago-based firm that features the expertise of attorneys with substantial credentials in the medical profession. Each of these lawyers brings a wealth of knowledge to a wide range of medical malpractice cases. The medical knowledge allows the firm to examine a wide range of cases, from things such as medication errors and surgical errors to stroke complications and spinal cord injuries. The experienced trial attorneys know how to take that information and find justice for those injured by the negligence of others. Please contact the firm at (312) 346-8700 or visit www.cirignani.com for more information.

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