

ADVERTISEMENT

The government failure allowing nursing home nightmares to happen

by Lynda Figueredo
Fri, November 10th 2017 at 11:32 PM

- NEWS
- WEATHER
- VIDEOS
- EN ESPAÑOL
- GAME CENTER
- CHIME II
- FEATURED
- HEALTH
- TRAFFIC
- LEGAL M
- OBITUAR
- STATION



The government failure allowing nursing home nightmares to happen. (WPEC)

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (CBS 12) — CBS12 Investigates uncovered reports of true horror happening at nursing homes across the country that by law should have been reported to law enforcement.

These cases include life threatening falls, starvation, even sexual assaults that were not reported.

EARLY ALERT

An early alert from the Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows 1-in-4 abuse cases in nursing facilities across the nation and are unreported.

The OIG called the procedures currently in place, “inadequate”.

NEWS

WEATHER

VIDEOS

EN ESPAÑOL

GAME CENTER

CHIME II

FEATURES

HEALTH

TRAFFIC

LEGAL M

OBITUAR

STATION

NEWSWEATHERVIDEOSEN ESPAÑOLGAME CENTER

NEWS

80 percent of those cases involved alleged or suspected rape or sexual abuse.

WEATHER

Six cases are now being investigated in Florida.

VIDEOS

"We found that CMS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services didn't have adequate controls in place to detect these potential instances of abuse or neglect," said Curtis Roy, Assistant Regional Inspector General for Audit Services, OIG.

EN ESPAÑOL

GAME CENTER

Roy said the federal agency is required to identify cases of neglect - and they didn't.

CHIME II

"CMS acknowledged that that they are not doing the data match to identify cases of neglect," added Roy. "They also acknowledged that they have not identified any instances of nursing home staff not reporting cases as required."

FEATURES

HEALTH

The audit found 38 cases that were so bad, by law the nursing homes were required to report to local law enforcement. But, they didn't do it.

TRAFFIC

LEGAL NEWS

"They need to have accountability, or they won't be responsible at all," said Roy.

OBITUARIES

STATION

Because of the results of this review, now the OIG is forcing their hand.

CMS must initiate protocols to adhere to a long-standing federal statute that requires nursing homes to report abuse cases to police and other state agencies immediately or risk fines up to \$300,000.

\$1.77 MILLION LAWSUIT

"They don't care about those fines," explained attorney Joe Landy. "It is business as usual. It's cheaper to pay those fines to keep these facilities understaffed with people that are not properly trained while they make record setting profits."

Landy represented Patricia Dahmer who lost her husband, George after his stay at nursing home.

"Within 60 days, he couldn't walk," explained Dahmer. "He couldn't talk. He couldn't feed himself. In the matter of 60 days, he was lifeless."

Dahmer took him to the hospital, but said it was too late.

"They were going to put a feeding tube in so he could eat, and they undid his feet, and found out he was stage 4 decubitus ulcers," said Dahmer. "This was all uncalled for. This was all a secret."

In 2010, Dahmer won a \$1.77 Million civil lawsuit against the nursing home.

Her attorney, Joe Landy said the facility valued making money over their patients' care.

"It exposed what is a long-standing problem in Florida," said Landy. "It exposed a nursing home that was making a huge amount of money with no accountability whatsoever."

U.S. Privacy

MORE TO EXPLORE

Elderly woman dies 5 days after crash with teen driver in Wellington

Man claiming knowledge of assassination attempt on Trump arrested near Mar-a-Lago Police

Mariah Carey says her 'heart is broken' after mother and sister died on the same day

SPONSORED CONTENT

2 Insane Cards Charging 0% Interest Until Nearly 2026

CompareCredit | SPONSORED

See the Value of Your House Instantly (Take a Look)

Home Value Calculator | SPONSORED

Learn More

Your Penny Saver | SPONSORED

NEWS

WEATHER

VIDEOS

EN ESPAÑOL

GAME CENTER

CHIME II

FEATURES

HEALTH

TRAFFIC

LEGAL M

OBITUARIES

STATION

AdChoices



Sponsored

Conversation

ADVERTISEMENT

NEWS	WEATHER	VIDEOS	EN ESPAÑOL	GAME CENTER
				NEWS
				WEATHER
				VIDEOS
				EN ESPAÑOL
				GAME CENTER
				CHIME 11
				FEATURES
				HEALTH
				TRAFFIC
				LEGAL M
				OBITUARIES
				STATION