

“7 SECRETS THE NURSING HOMES DON’T WANT YOU TO KNOW!”

“Can I trust the nursing home to tell me what really happened?”

“Could the injuries have been prevented with proper care?”

“Will the government agency responsible for regulating nursing homes adequately punish the nursing home for its neglect?”

“Should I get a lawyer, even if it is not a criminal case?”

If you have asked yourself any of these questions, you should continue reading!

Secret #1: Pressure Ulcers (Bed Sores) are avoidable!

- One of the leading causes of serious injury are bedsores usually that form on the sacrum, the tailbone, the ankles and the back of the head.
- The primary cause of the pressure ulcers are NEGLECT! Nursing homes will tell you that they are unavoidable.
- They can be prevented through regular turning schedules and pressure-reducing devices.

Secret #2: Nursing home employees may falsify medical records to cover up neglect.

- Employees are required to document all of the care they render to a patient.
- Due in part to under-staffing and a large burden of work, some staff will document care that was not actually given.
- These false entries can be traced through inconsistencies with other medical records made by other treating nurses or doctors.

Secret #3: Government agencies do not have enough staff or funding to adequately police nursing homes.

- Nursing homes and their insurance companies will tell you that government agencies ensure that poor care does not happen and the injuries could not have been caused by their staff.
- The government penalties are worthless. It is cheaper to provide poor care because the nursing homes rarely get caught and sued.

Secret #4: After a nursing home injury or death, it is important to seek immediate legal consultation.

- Don't let anyone force or intimidate you into a hasty decision.
- The longer a person waits, the less likely the evidence is going to be around when it is needed.
- There is a short statute of limitations in California for you to make a claim.

Secret #5: You can find a competent, qualified attorney to represent you or your loved one against the nursing home on a “no-recovery, no-fee” basis.

- This means you are not required to pay an attorney's fees unless the attorney recovers money from the nursing home, home healthcare provider or their insurance company.

Secret #6: Some nursing homes are more interested in making money, than in providing quality care.

- The less money they spend for patient care, the more money the nursing home makes and the happier their shareholders are. They can attempt to maximize profits in a number of ways.
 - Hiring unskilled, untrained staff because they are cheaper. Sometimes this is done unintentionally by failing to verify the employees' degrees.
 - Staffing an insufficient number of employees to care for the patients.

Secret #7: The incidences of elder abuse are rapidly increasing in California.

- In July 1998, the U.S. General Accounting Office issued a report that cited nearly 1/3 of California's nursing homes for serious or potentially life-threatening problems.
- Types of abuse include:
 - Physical Abuse
 - Emotional Abuse
 - Neglect