



DISABILITY RIGHTS NEW YORK

New York's Protection & Advocacy System and Client Assistance Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Forest Cotten
518-603-0684
Forest.Cotten@drny.org

Niagara Rehabilitation and Nursing Center Abuses and Neglects Residents

Albany, NY, July 12, 2017 – Disability Rights New York (DRNY) issued a public report documenting abuse and neglect at Niagara Rehabilitation and Nursing Center (NRNC), a skilled nursing facility in Niagara Falls, New York. DRNY launched its investigation of NRNC in November 2016 after receiving multiple complaints of the poor conditions of the facility and the inferior care provided to residents.

DRNY concluded that NRNC abused and neglected residents; operated a dirty and unsafe facility; physically and verbally abused a resident; neglected the medical needs of another resident; repeatedly provided meals that did not meet the dietary needs of residents, including providing meals that contained known resident allergens; and prevented residents from being discharged. NRNC interfered with DRNY's investigation by preventing residents from speaking with DRNY, refusing DRNY's right to question staff, and by stopping DRNY from photographing the facility. DRNY filed a complaint with the New York State Department of Health (DOH). DOH found that NRNC failed to maintain the physical, mental and psycho-social well-being of its residents.

“DRNY uncovered serious systemic practices that put residents at risk of physical and emotional harm,” said DRNY Executive Director Timothy A. Clune, Esq. “NRNC must immediately remedy these issues. We will continue to monitor NRNC.”

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725 Broadway, Suite 450
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 427 -6561 (fax)

25 Chapel Street, Suite 1005
Brooklyn, New York 11201
(718) 797-1161 (fax)

44 Exchange Blvd, Suite 110
Rochester, New York 14614
(585) 348-9833 (fax)

mail@DRNY.org • www.DRNY.org

(800) 993-8982 (toll free) • (518) 432-7861 (voice) • (518) 512-3448 (TTY)