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To Whom it may Concern

Revison 12/09/2009

RE: my August 9th accident.

The following was a portion of the report sent to Weldon Rehabilitation Hospital from Baystate Medical Center (Hospital) has been altered, in red, after my 12/09/09 visit with Robert Schapiro, my neuro surgeon..

"The patient initially landed on his face, then flipped immediately to his back, experiencing loss of motor function acutely of the upper extremities and pain localized to the upper torso. The patient upon admission underwent immediate imaging in the trauma bay, consisting of chest x-ray, pelvic x-rays, head CT and a CT of the neck, thoracic spine, and eventually an MRI of the cervicothoracic spine, which showed positive finding of C4-5 spinous process fracture (**I am told that there was NOT a fracture of C4-C5, but rather an inflammation around C3-C4 and as of 12-09-2009 the swelling has gone down. So surgery is put off for another 3 months and if it continues to go down, maybe there will be no surgery. All braces, cervical collar and TLSO, were ordered removed by the Neuro-Surgion. Praise GOD !**), T5 burst fracture with some bilateral facet fractures, and T3-4 spinous process fractures. The MRI also was suggestive of the presence of an epidural hematoma, maximum at the level of T3-4. The patient remained thermodynamically stable throughout the trauma evaluation and was seen by Dr. Shapiro from Neurosurgery and brought to the Operating Room for **cord decompression and fusion T3 through T6**. Post operatively the patient continued to have central cord syndrome. However, he was able to move his legs but unable to move his arms. Approximately 12 hours postoperatively the patient had noted loss of blood of a total of 1,800 ml. He received 4.1 liters of normal saline, three units of packed red blood cells and stabilized. He did have initially decreased urine output, which improved. He remained intubated postoperatively and was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit for close neurologic monitoring. The patient awoke and followed commands, opened his eyes and was responding. The patient has complained primarily of neuropathic pain since the injury but has tolerated introduction of Neurontin and continuation of Toradol and Dilaudid. He was fitted for a TLSO brace, which he had been tolerating. He was seen by Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and PM&R and felt to be a good rehabilitation candidate. He is (now was) referred to Weldon Rehabilitation for rehabilitative care."

This is provided to show anyone what really happens to me in the medical profession's language.

I was at the Weldon Rehabilitation Hospital, on the Mercy Hospital Campus, in Springfield, MA for 14 days and there was re-taught how to walk, and use my hands and fingers. Then I was discharged to my "efficiency" apartment at 32 Byers Street, # 101, Springfield, MA on August 28th.

The Mercy Home Care team visited me there as follows: Nurse came on Saturday the 29th and then again on September 1st and 3rd (3 visits). The Home Health Aid came on September 1st-4th (4 visits) The Physical Therapist came maybe August 31st but also on about September 2nd (2 visits, maybe 3) The Occupational Therapist came August 31st, and September 2nd, 4th, 7th and 9th 5 visits. On the 10th of September she had me sign papers that I understood that Mercy Home Care was suspending all services. They had verbally told me the reason was because they felt my building/area was unsafe for their employees to visit. That weekend I cried all Saturday & Sunday, I felt so alone and felt so much like I had been "kicked to the curb" and was without any professional support. Baystate honored Mercy's blacklisting my building. But friends helped me, I set out clothes the night before and bed bathed myself in bed with towel or water and left it there until the clothes and brace were on in the morning. This until Dr. Schapiro said I could remove the braces for a shower and I got a shower chair and bar to get in and out of the tub. God has been good to me with all the help from Church, Lodge and my fellow tenants here.

Sincerely,



Charlie Knight