

## Nevada Elder Neglect: Your Rights

The neglect of the elderly within nursing homes, whether in Nevada or elsewhere, occurs more often than people realize. One reason for this is that people are not fully aware of laws that govern Nevada elder neglect and abuse. This can lead to even more of these situations continuing to happen. It is very important to have knowledge of the Nevada elder neglect and protection laws if you are trying to find a nursing home or if any loved ones currently reside in a nursing home. The first step is to know what rights nursing home residents have, and to ensure that those rights are respected by nursing home staff.

These laws are here to protect the elderly from abuse, neglect, and exploitation as well as protecting their health and mental well-being. The following are some of the more important laws to remember:

- Residents have the right to see family members, as well resident advocates, physicians, service providers and federal and state representatives if need be.
- A resident cannot be denied visitation with other residents against their own will and they cannot be restrained, physically or medicinally, unless it is for treatment purposes.
- Residents can keep and use their own personal belongings as long as they don't pose a health risk to the individual.
- Residents also have the right to choose their own health care providers and to have the medical information be kept confidential.
- Residents have the right to privacy while within the nursing home.
- Residents also cannot be forced to let the nursing home manage their finances unless they so choose, and if they choose this, the finances must be managed and recorded with the state and federal record keeping regulations.
- A full list of residential rights must be given to the resident if requested; this is a great way to get a full list of the laws and your rights. There are many state and federal laws that have been laid out and set in motion to protect the citizens who reside in nursing homes.

If you feel any of your rights are being denied, you should contact the attorneys at Jack Bernstein & Associates. We are well-versed in the Nevada elder neglect laws and in your rights as a citizen and human being. If it's a problem with certain staff members and the problem is ongoing, the first step that you should take is to contact the administration and see if they know of the situation and can intervene before it becomes a legal issue. If the administration either refuses to check on your claims or state that they will look into it but nothing happens, you may then wish to look outside of the staff and administration. Or, if the issue is sudden and serious, as in a case of severe physical abuse, you may wish to contact our elder neglect attorneys regardless of the administration's reaction. Document evidence of abuse as much as you can, but don't stay in an abusive situation.

Call our experienced Nevada elder neglect attorneys today for answers about your case.

