



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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ATTORNEY GENERAL

For Immediate Release
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News Release 2015-01

CARE HOME OPERATOR SENTENCED FOR MANSLAUGHTER

HONOLULU – Attorney General Russell Suzuki announced today that Jennifer Polintan (36) was sentenced to a year in prison for recklessly causing the death of 88-year old Nona Mosman in 2013.

Polintan operated the “Devine” care home, a Community Care Foster Family Home in Waipahu. Mosman’s care plan, designed by her physician and home-health case manager, required among other things that Mosman be repositioned every two hours. Polintan failed to comply with the care plan by leaving Mosman in the care of unqualified substitute caregivers for as long as 10-hours a day.

The unqualified substitutes were incapable of carrying out Mosman’s care plan and failed to reposition Ms. Mosman as required. This failure caused severe bedsores to develop. In addition, Mosman was found unkempt, dehydrated, and malnourished.

Mosman’s health began to decline in January 2013 and accelerated in May culminating in Mosman’s death. An autopsy conducted by the Honolulu Medical Examiner revealed that Mosman suffered from a condition called “adult failure to thrive”, which is a consequence of neglect and a cause in Mosman’s death.

While acknowledging that providing care to elderly persons can be difficult and trying, Attorney General Suzuki said that “it is inexcusable to fail to provide adequate care to a dependent adult, particularly when the provider is in the business of operating a foster care home. Caregivers must always be aware of the grave consequences that may follow when care plans are ignored and patients do not receive the care they require.”

Polintan, who cooperated in the investigation and prosecution, will also pay \$8,980 in restitution to Mosman’s family, \$4,888.00 in restitution to the State of Hawaii, a \$600 fine, and court costs.

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Attorney General Suzuki encourages members of the public who suspect that dependent adults are being abused or neglected to contact the Adult Protective Services at (808) 832-5115, or the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit at (808) 586-1058.

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For more information, contact:

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