

From: Sandra J W Brown <sandorajwbrown@gmail.com>
Sent: 3/11/2020 9:18:58 AM
To: Jasmine Beach-Ferrara <Jasmine.Beach-Ferrara@buncombecounty.org>, brownie.newman@buncombecounty.org, Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>, Julie Mayfield <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com>, Brian.Turner@NCLeg.net
Cc:
Subject: Re: HCA Employee (& my Spouse's) Death

Ms. Beach-Ferrara,
Thank you for your condolences. I have already done the things mentioned as a way to remain proactive.Â
Again, I am unsure what I am supposed to do next?
Regards,
Sandra JW Brown
(828) 279-5707Â

On Mon, Mar 9, 2020 at 9:35 PM Jasmine Beach-Ferrara <Jasmine.Beach-Ferrara@buncombecounty.org> wrote:
Ms. Brown,
I am so terribly sorry for the loss that you and your girls have endured.

And it is very troubling to hear your concerns about the care Greg received. It echoes other stories I have heard with serious concerns about patient safety and care.

I will continue to advocate for reforms at Mission and believe it is important for our community to do so through all available channels - the formal process with the auditor, by supporting the nurses' union, people who are able to sharing their stories publicly, etc.

Take care,
JasmineÂ

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From: Sandra J W Brown <sandorajwbrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2020 6:57:04 PM
To: Brian.Turner@NCLeg.net <Brian.Turner@ncleg.net>; Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>; Julie Mayfield <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com>; Brownie W. Newman <Brownie.Newman@buncombecounty.org>; Jasmine Beach-Ferrara <Jasmine.Beach-Ferrara@buncombecounty.org>
Subject: HCA Employee (& my Spouse's) Death

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First, I thank you for your public show of support for unionization at HCA. I hesitated to speak directly to you this afternoon because of the movement of the rally from downtown to the hospital campus. Unless absolutely necessary, I plan to never step foot on that campus again nor would I subject my children to that kind of emotional trauma.Â

But, I need help. I am at a loss of what I can and should do next.Â

I would like the opportunity to talk with someone who will listen and is able to advise me about the horrid experiences my family has endured because of HCA.Â

I have written letters asking for help with no return correspondence from AG Stein and began writing Terry VanDuyn until me having to look through my photos made me physically ill.Â

My children's Father (legally my husband) was a current employee of Mission and had been for years. He died while in their care on January 8 of this year. The last 1-2 weeks of his Life were horrible. He needlessly suffered at the hands of his employer and their subpar medical care.Â

What I witnessed was awful. It was not the same hospital that I once proudly claimed as my own employer. I documented many things that were not in line with patient care protocols. I documented ignored concerns, ignored requests and flat out ignored doctor's orders for radiology testings and treatment. I also have witnesses that heard one of the oncologists say that the ball was dropped in more than one way. Mission even released his body to Highland Maple Springs without a signed death certificate. I had to raise hell two days after he died for someone to sign the certificate so his body could be processed by cremation. I know all of these things aren't because I am also a former Mission Health employee beginning in 1998 and ending a few years ago.Â

I was given the name of a local attorney by a provider at Mission (not one of his personal doctors) while he was still living. I had one appointment with Ms. Burke about a week after his death and was advised to be pretty tight lipped with any public comment and/or information... but I am at my wits end.Â

We have two daughters, ages 12 & 14 that are still trying to accept that their Father is gone. I have a 15-20 pound box of medical records that I had to request 3 times (beginning when he was still alive) that didn't arrive until weeks after his death. I have been told by HCA's human resources that I can get an attorney to sort out his retirement and life insurance plans he paid into for years that they refuse to discuss with me at all. I have a stack of his medical bills, one totaling over \$325,000, when he was an employee of theirs and had their full insurance coverage as well as he was supposedly going to be enrolled in Medicare and/or Medicaid upon his terminal diagnosis at the beginning of December 2019.Â

Greg was asymptomatic and wasn't even diagnosed as having cancer until the weekend before last Thanksgiving.Â

6 weeks.Â

6 weeks from a diagnosis of cancer until his death.Â

6 weeks.Â

I am the "working poor" of our community. I don't have the financial resources to simply get an attorney. If I did, I doubt I would be receiving EBT and medicaid benefits for my children.Â

What am I supposed to do? How am I supposed to "fight" a corporate entity from my position? How is our community supposed to advocate for ALL of OUR health from

a for-profit facility? The sale of Mission to HCA should have NEVER been approved in the first place considering their well documented poor record. One google search shows plenty of troubling articles concerning HCA. I still have a real hard time understanding how the sale happened in the first place.Â
Iâ€™m all ears if any of you have some idea of what I can and should do.Â

Thanks,
Sandra JW Brown
(828) 279-5707

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