

February 3, 1999

Suburban
Bucks County

COUPLE SUES DOCTORS, HOSPITAL OVER STROKE DAMAGE

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Special to The Suburban

A Richboro couple has sued Dr. Edward J. Holub, nurses Bruce Yeslow and M.A. Paglione and St. Mary Medical Center, alleging carelessness and negligence in the emergency room treatment of the plaintiff's stroke.

Lawyers Alan Schwartz, Sidney M. Grobman and Stephen J. Pokiniewski Jr. of Anapol Schwartz Weiss Cohan Feldman & Smalley filed the suit last week in Bucks County Court of Common Pleas on behalf of Beth and Stuart Brown.

According to the complaint, on Oct. 9, 1997, Beth Brown awoke at 1:40 a.m. and noticed that her left side "didn't feel right," and she had a slight droop in her left eye. She woke her husband and asked him to call 911.

A Tri-Hampton Rescue Squad ambulance was dispatched to the Brown residence at 1:50 a.m. and arrived there at 1:58 a.m. The ambulance transported Brown to the hospital, arriving there at 2:27 a.m., the suit says.

Brown was admitted into the hospital at 2:40 a.m. and seen by Dr. Holub at 3:45 a.m., according to hospital records.

Holub ordered various lab tests, which were within normal limits.

At about 9 a.m., Brown's family doctor was notified of Brown's condition and he asked that she be transferred to Holy Redeemer Hospital. She was admitted there at 12:45 p.m. and seen by a neurologist.

Brown remained at Holy Redeemer until Oct. 17, when she was admitted to Moss Rehabilitation Hospital. She was discharged from Moss Rehabilitation on Nov. 7.

According to the complaint, Brown suffered permanent injury to her central nervous system and permanent neurological injury "as a direct and proximate result of the carelessness and negligence of the defendants."

The suit claims Holub was negligent in failing to recognize the seriousness of Brown's symptoms; in employing inadequate or inappropriate methods of treatment; in failing to have Brown examined by the appropriate specialists on a timely basis; and in failing to diagnose her central nervous system disorder.

The suit claims the two nurses, who were on duty when the plaintiff was admitted, were negligent and careless as well.

The lawsuit also claims the hospital was negligent as the employer of the three individual defendants.

Brown claims that in addition to her permanent physical injuries, she has suffered "excruciating and agonizing physical and emotional pain and disfigurement and will continue to do so for an indefinite time."

Brown's husband Stuart filed a claim against the defendants for loss of Brown's services, society and companionship and for medical expenses incurred in treating his wife's condition.

The case, Brown v. Holub et al, has been assigned to Judge Cynthia Rufe.