

Media Advisory: Contact: Richard Mollot at 212-385-0355 or richard@ltccc.org

45 NURSING HOMES ACROSS NEW YORK STATE SANCTIONED FOR POOR CARE

FROM BROOKLYN TO ROCHESTER TO SYRACUSE, HOMES ACROSS NY FOUND TO BE FAILING VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

New York, April 30, 2010: Fifteen (15) New York State nursing homes have been fined by the state and 20 have received federal fines, according to a report released today by the Long Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC). LTCCC reports to the public all enforcement actions taken against nursing homes by the state and federal governments every three months in its newsletter and on its website, www.nursinghome411.org. Today's report is of actions taken from September – December 2009.

In addition to the nursing homes that were fined, the state took other actions against 18 facilities. All of these actions are the result of these nursing homes failing to meet minimum standards. Some of the facilities were found to have put their residents in "immediate jeopardy" or of providing "substandard quality of care" – the two most serious categorizations of harm to residents.

LTCCC is also reporting selected actions taken during this time period by the NYS Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU). The unit prosecutes cases of resident abuse in nursing homes. The three cases reported on today involve falsifying records to indicate that patient care was given when it was not, physical abuse of a resident and photographing a resident's genitals with a cell phone and transmitting the picture.

For details on all homes sanctioned, including names and locations go to: www.nursinghome411.org and click on the "New York Nursing Home Enforcements" yellow button on the lower right side. Previous enforcement actions can be found by using the Google search box on the right hand side of the page and searching by name of facility or a specific town.

LTCCC believes that consumers should be aware of problems at the home they or their loved ones live in or homes they are thinking of moving to. They should use this information to evaluate a facility and ask questions of staff & management: why have these problems occurred and what is being done about them?

LTCCC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the rights and welfare of long term care consumers in all settings, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities and in their communities, by strengthening regulation, surveillance and enforcement. For more information on this and other long term care issues, visit our primary website: www.ltccc.org.