

— In the News —

In Circuit Court

A 28-year-old woman's family, who alleged that she died in 2007 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital because she was not properly treated and monitored after undergoing a procedure to correct her irregular heartbeat, has settled a lawsuit against the hospital for \$4 million, the family's attorney said.

Kassi Dallmann was told by her doctor that the cardiac ablation procedure she had undergone so that she could stop taking anti-arrhythmia medications was performed without incident and, as such, she was discharged from the hospital, said **Mark E. McNabola** of Cogan & McNabola P.C. who, along with **Patti L. Tuttle**, represented Dallmann's estate.

A few days after the procedure, Dallmann returned to Northwestern's emergency department with complaints of fever, chest pain and shortness of breath, according to the lawsuit.

She was admitted, given antibiotics and while waiting to be picked up from the hospital a few days later, on Aug. 17, 2007, Dallmann collapsed and died of a massive pulmonary embolism, McNabola said.

The plaintiff's attorneys contended that the pulmonary embolism could have been avoided if Dallmann had been placed on anticoagulants following the procedure.

The hospital was represented by **Amy H. Kane** of Anderson, Rasor & Partners LLP.

The settlement was reached in a mediation with **Geoffrey L. Gifford** and approved on Jan. 21 by Cook County Circuit Judge **Thomas L. Hogan**, McNabola said.

The case is *Estate of Kassi Dallmann v. Northwestern Memorial Hospital, et al.*, No. 09 L 9506.

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