Penn. Coroner’s Medical Practice Settles HIV Discrimination Lawsuit

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A settlement has been reached in the federal lawsuit alleging HIV discrimination against the private medical practice of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, coroner Stephen Diamantoni, MD, Lancaster Online reports.

The lawsuit claimed the health care practice denied treatment to an HIV-positive man and his family. The settlement requires that the facility pay financial compensation to the man, his wife and his daughter, along with attorney’s fees and costs.

In addition, the health care practice must train staff regarding HIV and develop an anti-discrimination policy.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is illegal to refuse to treat a person with a disability—in this case, HIV. Because the man’s daughter is a minor whose identity must be protected, the family is referred to by the pseudonyms “Husband, Wife and Daughter Jones” in the suit.

The AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania filed the lawsuit in December 2014.

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