

Blakely, Heidi

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2025 7:50 AM
To: Web Master; County Board Public Comment
Subject: PublicComment

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Formstack Submission For: PublicComment

Submitted at 01/13/25 7:50 AM

Meeting Date:	01/13/25
Meeting:	DuPage County Board
Name:	Joseph Libuszowski
Organization:	Point Plus Partners LLC
Address:	1
Daytime Phone:	[REDACTED]
Subject:	Homicide Deaths caused by Judge Richard D Russo
Comment:	

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Formstack, 11671 Lantern Road, Suite 300, Fishers, IN 46038

Blakely, Heidi

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 25, 2024 6:25 AM
To: Web Master; County Board Public Comment
Subject: PublicComment

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Formstack Submission For: PublicComment

Submitted at 12/25/24 6:24 AM

Meeting Date: 01/07/25

Meeting: DuPage County Board

Name: Joseph Geraci

Organization:

Address: [REDACTED]
Naperville, IL 60540

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

Subject: Subject: A Call to Action: Protecting Our Elderly and Demanding Accountability

Comment:

Dear Members of the DuPage County Board,

My name is Joseph Geraci, and I am here today not only as a grieving son but as an advocate for the thousands of vulnerable seniors in our community who rely on our healthcare system to protect them. My mother, Joanne Geraci, lost her life in a way no one should ever have to—abandoned by the very system that was supposed to care for her.

At 80 years old, my mother was battling advanced pulmonary fibrosis, weighing only 80 pounds, dehydrated, and reliant on oxygen. Despite her fragile state, she was discharged from Central DuPage Hospital to Monarch Landing, a skilled nursing facility woefully unequipped to meet her needs. She was sent under the influence of morphine, a flagged dose that masked her symptoms and created the illusion she was stable enough for transfer.

She wasn't.

Less than 12 hours after arriving, my mother was dead—alone, unmonitored, and found on the floor. She was last seen at 3 a.m. during a diaper change and discovered lifeless by 5 a.m. This wasn't just neglect; this was a system that failed at every level, from the hospital's decision to discharge her prematurely to the nursing facility's inability to provide the care she so desperately needed.

What makes this even more tragic is that her life-saving medication, Tyvaso, finally arrived the day she died. The hospital couldn't wait one more day to ensure she was stable and had access to the treatment she had been waiting for. Instead, they sent her away—too sick to advocate for herself and without consulting me, her health proxy, about the decision.

This is not just my family's loss. It's a reflection of a broken system—a system that prioritizes expedience and cost-cutting over humanity. I'm here to ask for your help to ensure no other family has to endure what mine has:

1. Strengthen Discharge Protocols: Ensure hospitals are held accountable for prematurely discharging critically ill patients to inappropriate care settings. No one in my mother's condition should have been sent anywhere other than hospice or continued inpatient care.
2. Increase Oversight of Skilled Nursing Facilities: Advocate for heightened monitoring requirements for high-risk patients like my mother. Facilities must be required to act on known risks, such as fall hazards, and be held accountable for failures in care.
3. Mandate Thorough Investigations by the Coroner: The DuPage County Coroner did not conduct a scene visit or investigate the flagged morphine dose. This lack of action leaves critical questions unanswered and prevents families like mine from understanding what truly happened to their loved ones.
4. Advocate for Elder Protections: Establish a task force to examine how we can improve care transitions, hold facilities accountable, and ensure families are informed and empowered to advocate for their loved ones.

My mother deserved better. She deserved dignity, compassion, and safety—not to die alone on the floor of a facility that was supposed to help her recover. Let her story serve as a wake-up call. Together, we can demand better for the elderly in our community.

Please don't let her death be in vain. Use your position to make meaningful changes that ensure no other family endures this kind of preventable tragedy.

Thank you for your time, compassion, and willingness to act.

Sincerely,
Joseph Geraci

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Formstack, 11671 Lantern Road, Suite 300, Fishers, IN 46038

Blakely, Heidi

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 8:08 PM
To: Web Master; County Board Public Comment
Subject: PublicComment

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Formstack Submission For: PublicComment

Submitted at 12/18/24 8:07 PM

Meeting Date: 12/18/24

Meeting: DuPage County Board

Name: Joseph Geraci

Organization:

Address: [REDACTED]
Naperville, IL 60540

**Daytime
Phone:** [REDACTED]

Subject: Subject: Formal Inquiry into the DuPage County Coroner's Office and Handling of My Mother's Death Investigation

Comment: DuPage County Board
421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

Dear DuPage County Board Members,

I am writing to formally request an inquiry into the DuPage County Coroner's Office and their handling of my mother's death investigation. My mother, Joanne Geraci, passed away on December 6, 2024, under troubling circumstances following her discharge from Central DuPage Hospital (CDH) to Monarch Landing in Naperville. Despite her complex medical condition, her care and transfer were handled in a manner that denied her dignity, safety, and proper oversight, culminating in a premature and incomplete investigation into her death by the Coroner's Office.

While my mother was a sick woman, she did not deserve to be transferred and cared for in a way that effectively euthanized her through neglect and mismanagement. I am urging the DuPage County Board to investigate these systemic failures and the lack of accountability in this case.

Key Concerns

1. Premature Discharge and Denial of Proper Care by CDH

- My mother was transferred from CDH to Monarch Landing in what was described as a "stable" condition for rehabilitation, not end-of-life care.
- At the time of discharge, she was awaiting the arrival of Tyvaso (treprostinil inhalation solution), a therapy prescribed by her pulmonologist, Dr. Bradford Bemmis, to manage her pulmonary hypertension and potentially improve her quality of life. By transferring her without initiating this treatment, CDH effectively denied her access to a potentially life-saving therapy.
- CDH also prescribed morphine sulfate, a medication flagged for being unsafe for her renal condition. The cumulative effects of this medication, combined with the lack of communication with the receiving facility, created the conditions for her rapid decline.

2. Inadequate Monitoring and Neglect at Monarch Landing

- My mother, who was unable to move independently, was found naked, face-up on the floor and without her oxygen cannula. This undignified and preventable scenario reflects gross neglect and inadequate supervision at Monarch Landing.
- The administration of morphine sulfate, despite flagged warnings, likely caused sedation and respiratory suppression, contributing to her death. This medication was wholly inappropriate for her condition and underscores a lack of oversight at both CDH and Monarch Landing.

3. Incomplete and Dismissive Investigation by the Coroner's Office

- The DuPage County Coroner's Office prematurely concluded that my mother's death was "natural" without addressing the following critical issues:
- The documented administration of morphine sulfate at Monarch Landing, despite their claim that no such medication was given.

- The lack of toxicology testing or autopsy to confirm or rule out morphine toxicity or other preventable factors.
- The circumstances under which my mother was found on the floor without her oxygen cannula, which reflect a failure of care.
- By failing to address these factors, the Coroner's Office dismissed key evidence and undermined the integrity of their investigation.

Request for Action

I respectfully request the DuPage County Board to:

1. Conduct an independent review of the DuPage County Coroner's Office's investigation into my mother's death, including their failure to consider critical evidence.
2. Investigate systemic failures at CDH and Monarch Landing, including the premature discharge, denial of Tyvaso therapy, and inappropriate use of morphine.
3. Ensure accountability and transparency within the Coroner's Office, particularly in cases involving medication mismanagement or neglect.

Why This Matters

While my mother had advanced health conditions, she was transferred to Monarch Landing for rehabilitation, not to be euthanized through medication mismanagement and neglect. She deserved dignity, proper care, and access to therapies like Tyvaso that could have improved her quality of life. Instead, her life ended suddenly and preventably, with no clear accountability for the systemic failures that led to her passing.

This is not just about my mother—it is about ensuring that no other family in DuPage County suffers the same lack of care, dignity, and accountability. I urge the County Board to take action to protect the residents of this community and to restore trust in the institutions meant to safeguard their lives.

I am happy to provide additional documentation or speak further about this matter. Please contact me directly at [REDACTED] or via email at [your email address].

Sincerely,
Joseph Geraci
Medical POA and Son of Joanne Geraci

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**Daytime
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Sincerely,
Joseph Geraci
Medical POA and Son of Joanne Geraci

Blakely, Heidi

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 12:53 AM
To: Web Master; County Board Public Comment
Subject: PublicComment

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Formstack Submission For: PublicComment

Submitted at 12/10/24 12:52 AM

Meeting Date:	12/09/24
Meeting:	DuPage County Board
Name:	MARGARET DELAROSA
Organization:	Self
Address:	[REDACTED] IL 60137
Daytime Phone:	[REDACTED]
Subject:	Transportation Center.
Comment:	<p>Dear county Board members,</p> <p>A recent Daily Herald article about Transportation Center sounded like a decision to spend 70 million was a decision of one pet project over another.</p> <p>What draws people/business to our communities are our walkable towns, bike and walking paths. It's about quality of life, not another generation of politicians building a monument.</p>

\$73,000,000 to house county vehicles including snow removal vehicles, please be reminded the world is on its way to booking the hottest temperatures in history.

DuPage should be focused on storm water recovery, not creating more hard surfaces.

Please focus your discussion and expenditures not on 'this or that' choices, but on the future of the quality of life in DuPage.

The county should be an environmental leader by remodeling its current site, not continuing the county complex sprawl.

Money should be invested in remodeling the structure and updating HVAC systems with heat pumps, and solar panels.

The county should invest in vehicle charging stations, and low emission and electric vehicles for county operations.

I am a patron of the arts, and we have many great venues in DuPage, Of course I want clear roads on my way at the theatre, but I want more sensible building, not the usual tear down start over mentality. We must look to our children's children environmental future. We must reduce our emissions, reduce fossil fuel consumption, plant more trees, and building renewal plans that are on-going with a view toward lowering consumption.

I suggest the county set a course for future DuPage, and invest in public transit, light rail, bike rental systems, and building alternatives to driving.

Thank you for listening,
Margaret DeLaRosa