

NORCROSS, GA, September 17, 2013 **/24-7PressRelease/** -- When a loved one dies unexpectedly, the last thing his or her family thinks about is consulting with an experienced medical malpractice attorney or seeing that an autopsy is performed. However, if you believe that any mistakes have contributed to your loss, immediate action is crucial.

If negligence did in fact occur and resulted in a serious injury, getting an [Atlanta malpractice lawyer](#) on the case as soon as possible is extremely important. As soon as the incident occurs, you can be sure that the hospital's "Risk Management" personnel are beginning work to leverage the hospital and its staff against the patient hurt by malpractice.

Why Time is of the Essence

There are several misapprehensions that keep people from seeking the cause of death for a loved one. Often, people accept whatever vague explanation is provided at the time by the physicians and nurses involved because they don't know that they have options or can receive help with a case involving [medical malpractice in Atlanta](#) .

Often, families are told that someone died of natural causes, or that their death was unavoidable even if certain errors had not occurred. While such comments may very well be true, keep in mind that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that physicians make diagnostic errors in about 25 percent of all cases.

If you have any questions or concerns about the treatment you or a loved one received, or about the cause of death, there is a very short period of time to have an autopsy performed and to demand the preservation of other potentially crucial evidence.

When Should You Ask for an Autopsy?

Ballard & Feagle, LLP lawyers who specialize in [Atlanta medical malpractice](#) , offer advice for when to seek an autopsy. It should be performed:

- When a death is unexpected, even if it seems to be the result of natural causes.
- If a patient participated in any clinical trials.
- If the death occurred following a diagnostic procedure or therapy.
- If a patient sustained an injury during hospitalization.
- If a woman dies during childbirth.
- When an infant or child dies.
- If environmental or occupational hazards are suspected.

Not only can autopsies determine whether a loved one's death was caused by medical errors or negligence, but they can find underlying genetic conditions that could affect immediate family members.

If you suspect medical malpractice in an Atlanta hospital, Ballard & Feagle, LLP would urge you to contact a [malpractice attorney](#) right away.

According to Greg Feagle, a partner with Ballard & Feagle, LLP, "Hospitals frequently are not required to see that an autopsy is performed when a patient dies. However, hospitals also frequently overlook fundamental rules mandating autopsies, and involving legal counsel can be crucial in addressing the issue with the hospital's administration. We are able to address the issue on behalf of grieving families so that they are free to attend to the far more important, personal matters at hand."

For more information on Ballard & Feagle, LLP, visit their website at <http://www.ballardandfeagle.com>

About Ballard & Feagle, LLP:

Ballard & Feagle, LLP is a unique law firm in that they are one of the few in the country that offers the resources, experience and trial skills needed to handle intricate and expensive local and national cases. Their nationally renowned firm deals with a wide range of cases, such as those involving medical malpractice, product liability, commercial vehicle accidents, and tort arising out of violent crimes.

To learn more, visit <http://www.ballardandfeagle.com> .

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